

# The Middlebury Campus

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## New Members Join Board of Trustees

By Caroline Agsten  
News Editor

Four Middlebury graduates were elected to the Board of Trustees in July, including two women of color, as term trustees and an alumni trustee. The new trustees include Joseph W. Brown '90, Leilani McClellan Brown '93, Janine Feng '92 and Henry J. Simonds '97. These appointees will serve on the Board for a five-year term. The Board of Trustees' legal and fiduciary responsibility is to govern the College and all of its affiliated schools and programs.

According to the Chair of the Board of Trustees Marna C. Whittington, the Governance Committee, headed by Trustee Kim Parizeau in conjunction with Secretary Dave Donahue, is the body responsible for recommending candidates to the board.

"The [Governance] Committee has a very

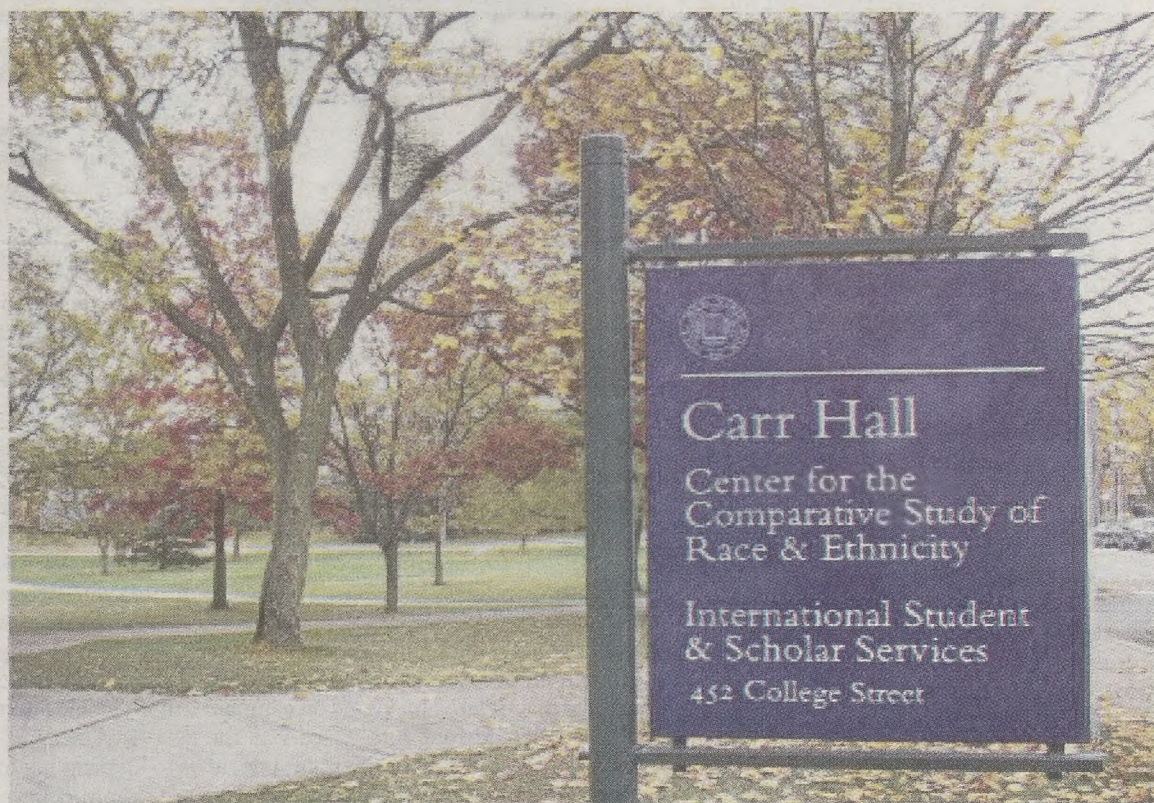
systematic process which reviews the skill sets and demographic characteristics of the current board against a profile of the skill sets and demographics we believe would be most appropriate and effective providing governance for Middlebury at this time," Whittington said.

The new appointees this year diversify the primarily white 33-member board.

"The Trustees and Governance Committee has been very successful recruiting a diverse, highly competent board which brings a wide set of professional skills to the boardroom," she said.

"The committee looks at lots of different criteria; professional experience, geographic representation, diversity with regard to gender, age, race, leadership ability and experience, level of engagement with the College and the list goes on. There is no one criteria

### MULTICULTURAL CENTER UNDERWAY



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

This summer, the renovation process began to convert Carr Hall into the College's new multicultural center.

that takes precedent," added Donahue. He noted that a vast majority of trustees are alumni, but this is the first group of

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## Midd Rises in Ranking of Top Liberal Arts Colleges

By Christian Jambora  
News Editor

The College rose in the *U.S. News & World Report's* annual rankings for national liberal arts colleges posted on Sept. 8. The College — which had previously ranked seventh among its peer institutions — is now tied for fourth alongside Bowdoin College, Pomona College and Wellesley College.

"It is important to keep in mind that the margins of difference among top colleges in rankings such as this one are extreme-

ly small and that movements up and down from year to year are to be expected," Dean of Admissions Greg Buckles said.

According to *U.S. News*, the rankings are based on measures of an individual institution's quality in seven broad areas, each with a designated percentage weight: undergraduate academic reputation (22.5 percent); graduation and retention rates (22.5 percent); faculty resources (20 percent); student selectivity (12.5 percent); financial resources (10 percent); alumni giving (5 percent); and graduation rate perfor-

mance (7.5 percent). None of the weights were changed from the 2015 rankings.

"We believe that rankings sometimes can play too large a role in the decisions students and families make about what colleges to apply to and attend," Buckles said.

"Just as we use many factors to determine which students to admit to Middlebury, we always hope prospective students will look beyond the numbers and seek out those colleges and universities that are the best fit for them."

U.S. News & World Report

### NATIONAL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES RANKINGS 2016

1 WILLIAMS COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 1

2 AMHERST COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 2

3 SWARTHMORE COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 3

4 TIE - BOWDOIN COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 5

4 TIE - MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 7

4 TIE - POMONA COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 4

4 TIE - WELLESLEY COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 4

8 CARLETON COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 8

9 TIE - CLAREMONT MCKENNA  
LAST YEAR: 8

9 TIE - DAVIDSON COLLEGE  
LAST YEAR: 11

DESIGN BY EVAN GALLAGHER & PHILIP BOHLMAN

## COLLEGE SUED BY STUDENT EXPELLED FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT

By Christian Jambora and  
Claire Abbadi  
News Editor and  
Editor-in-Chief

On Jul. 24, 2015, a student was expelled from the College for an alleged sexual assault charge against a non-Middlebury student. The incident allegedly took place in the fall 2014 semester while the student was studying abroad through the School for International Training (SIT). The College is now being sued by the student — who is filing suit anonymously as John Doe — to reverse the expulsion.

Doe claims the expulsion was unjust and unlawful, as SIT conducted the initial investigation and found him not responsible for the charge. The decision was communicated to College administrators, who, according to Doe's complaint, relied "on SIT's determination to permit [Doe] to return to Middlebury for the spring semester."

However, after the alleged victim notified the College that she believed SIT had not properly investigated the case, the College conducted its own separate investigation and found Doe guilty of the charge. The process took over five months, and Doe was formally expelled this past summer.

The student submitted two appeals to reverse the decision to Vice President for Academic Affairs Andrea Lloyd and President of the College Laurie Patton. Both requests were denied.

Doe was expected to graduate in the summer of 2016. His complaint states the expulsion will cost him a position with a

company he was to join upon graduation that offered him a \$10,000 signing bonus, \$5,000 in relocation fees, and a starting salary of \$85,000.

Middlebury College's response to the lawsuit stated the following:

*A Middlebury College undergraduate student who was recently expelled from the College following a finding that he committed a sexual assault has filed suit against the College in the U.S. District Court for the District of Vermont. As the complaint states, the student was expelled in August following a finding that he sexually assaulted a non-Middlebury student in November 2014 while both were attending a non-Middlebury study abroad program.*

*As stated in the complaint, the finding and the sanction of expulsion were upheld on appeal through the Middlebury process.*

*We regret that the student and his family have chosen to file suit against Middlebury College. We are confident in the policies and practices we have in place when dealing with allegations of sexual misconduct, and believe that they were properly followed in this case.*

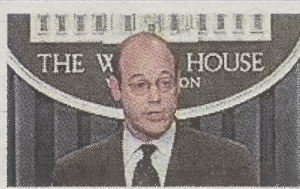
*We will respond to the lawsuit and associated motions in due course, but we have no further comment at this time.*

A motion hearing was held on Tuesday, Sep. 15, 2015. Details of the outcome, if any, are currently unavailable.

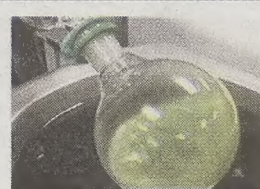
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# New Trustees

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trustees that are comprised only of those who graduated in the 1990's.

The four new trustees hail from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

Leilani M. Brown is the Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer of Starr Companies, a global insurance and financial services firm located in New York. With a strong background in insurance, marketing and distribution, she is responsible for driving company growth by leading marketing strategy, brand management, advertising, corporate communications and digital efforts. Before landing at Starr Companies, Leilani M. Brown held a variety of positions at places like MetLife and AIG. In 2012 she was named on both the Top 100 Blacks in Corporate America and Top Women in Corporate America lists in Savoy Magazine. After graduating from Middlebury in 1993, she went on to earn a Masters in Public Administration and Management from New York University.

"It is an incredible honor to be asked to serve as a Trustee for Middlebury. I am a proud Alumna of the school, remain very connected to my classmates and many of my professors. As a kid who grew up in Queens, New York, Middlebury changed the course of my life, exposing me to different people, cultures, and thinking. Middlebury, quite literally, changed my life," Brown said.

"I am looking forward to spending more time on campus, getting to know the Middlebury of 2015 and understanding the unique opportunities and challenges. I look forward to working closely with Laurie Patton, Marna Whittington and the other distinguished board members in service to Middlebury."

The second woman, Feng, is living in Hong Kong as the managing director of The Carlyle Group, a global alternative asset management firm. She joined the firm in 1998 and is responsible for several investments in China as well as advising on Asian buyout and growth capital investment in consumer, financial, healthcare and other sectors. The Carlyle Group in recent years has made concerted efforts to close the gender gap in the finance industry by hiring and promoting top individuals regardless of gender. After graduating from the College in 1992, Feng pursued a Masters in Business Administration from Harvard Business School.

"I expect Janine will be very helpful as Middlebury develops its presence overseas and looks to do more to support our alumni and our alumni network in Asia," Donahue said.

Joseph W. Brown is the final newly appointed term trustee. President of Hartzell Propeller Inc. and Chief Operating Officer of Tailwind Technologies Inc., Joseph W. Brown is heavily involved in manufacturing, quality, and information technology in the aviation industry. He has served on the board of numerous industry organizations such as General Aviation Manufacturers Association, where he chairs the board of directors and policy and legal issues committee. He graduated from the College in 1990.

Elected to the board by the alumni body, Simonds will serve as an alumni trustee. Simonds is an artist, curator and filmmaker living in New York City, serving as the president of the company Headwater Films/Media that he founded in 2001. He develops and finances independent documentaries and narrative films. His film credits include "Rachel Is," "Romance & Cigarettes," and "Andy Warhol: A Documentary." Middlebury College acquired his work "Global Impact" — a photographic portfolio documenting his artistic exploration of the iconic toy the Super Ball. He graduated from Middlebury in 1997.

# College Welcomes New Deans

By Eliza Teach  
News Editor

August marked the introduction of two new student life staff members to the College: Baishakhi Taylor joined the College as the new Dean of Students, taking over from Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of the College Katy Smith Abbott, while AJ Place assumed the role of an Associate Dean of Judicial Affairs and Student Life.

As Dean of Students, Taylor will oversee five main logistical areas: Judicial Affairs, Residential Life, Health and Wellness Education, Student Activities and parts of the Commons system.

Place will share responsibilities with Karen Guttentag — who is also an Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life — including oversight of the Community and Academic Judicial Boards, cases that fall under the College's Sexual Misconduct, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking (SMDVS) Policy and disposition without hearing cases. Place will also assist with the integration of new judicial software and play a role in the creation of a Bias Incident Team, which aims to work on the coordination of prevention and response efforts for bias-related incidents on campus.

Prior to his current role, Place was the Assistant Director for Residential Life at Union College, where he oversaw campus

housing, acted as a Title IX deputy, handled high-level judicial cases, and instituted a number of social justice initiatives.

"I truly enjoy working at small colleges as they provide the opportunity to get to know the folks you are working with on a deep level, and most importantly, get to know students and share in their journey," said Place.

Taylor was previously the Associate Dean of Trinity College of Arts and Sciences at Duke University, where she was in charge of overseeing the academic life of eight hundred students.

"I have been very fortunate in that all of my previous positions have looked at student life from different perspectives both inside and outside the classroom," said Taylor.

"These last five years have been critical in realizing that student life is a continuous thing. There is more than just taking classes and having a four year residential experience. It's a holistic process where we put students in the middle, and I think that's the approach I bring here," she said.

Taylor strives to focus on how members within the community can work on engaging with one another and how the community can be more circumspect in its deliberation both inside and outside the College.

Taylor said, "I'm really looking forward to starting my journey with all of you here. I deeply believe, based on my experience

in the U.S., that you always have a love affair with the place you stay and like with any relationship sometimes it works out. Sometimes you know from the get go — this is it, I can call this place home — and that is how my experience at Middlebury College has been so far."



TWITTER

Dean of Students Baishakhi Taylor joins the College as a former dean at Duke.

# Legacy Scholarship Offered by MIIS

By Phil Bohlman  
News Editor

The Middlebury Institute for International Studies at Monterey (MIIS) will offer a \$10,000 Legacy Scholarship to Middlebury College alumni and their family members.

Family members include an alumnus' parents, siblings, spouses, children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. In its initial press release the College defined alumni as anyone who has completed "any Middlebury undergraduate or graduate degree program including those offered by the Language Schools, the Bread Loaf School of English, and the Institute itself." Any legacy student who meets MIIS admission criteria and applies for the scholarship will receive it. Students entering

MIIS in the Spring of 2016 will be the first class the scholarship is available to.

Recently-hired Executive Director of Enrollment Management Rebecca Henriksen said she was struck by the power and importance of the College's alumni network and the role alumni play in MIIS' enrollment.

"Intellectual curiosity, cultural awareness, social and environmental consciousness, an adventurous spirit and the desire to make a positive impact seem to run in the family throughout Middlebury," she said.

"Many of our best students over the years have been legacies, and MIIS also sees a good number of Middlebury graduates moving on to earn their master's degree with us here in Monterey. I thought implementing the Legacy Scholarship was a way for us to show our

thanks to our alumni," she said.

Henriksen estimates that of 780 MIIS graduate students, 15 are Middlebury alumni.

The legacy program is not funded by a private donation but instead uses institutional funds earmarked for scholarships for incoming students.

The decision to offer the scholarship was the collaborative effort of a number of MIIS administrators: Director of Alumni Relations Leah Gowron, Vice President and Dean of the Institute Jeff Dayton-Johnson, Director of Admissions Sadia Khan, Associate Vice President for Marketing and Creative Services Robin Gronlund and Henriksen.

Henriksen will be on campus on September 24th to host an information session on the scholarship.

# Reflections from Old Chapel

By Laurie Patton  
President of the College

I am delighted to watch the campus transform itself from summer to autumn rhythms as the students return. I have been eager to dive in to the everyday life of the College. Many of you were here over the summer, and brought bread and vegetables and many other gifts of welcome. Thank you!

And many of you have been doing other extraordinary things. Here's a report from the summer: Middlebury students joined Middlebury professors and alumnae for the inaugural nature writing course in Alaska. Another group spent a month in Ethiopia examining both the theory and practice of international development. We celebrated the centennial of the founding of the Language Schools, with panels and keynote speakers from around the world. 134 students conducted original research with their mentors, including developing a prototype device for detecting dairy cow hoof lesions that will be tested in farms this fall and analyzing genetic predispositions to alcohol abuse in mice. Our women's lacrosse team was named a member of the academic honor squad—embodying the scholar-athletes that Middlebury is known for. And the team at MiddCORE, our program in entrepreneurship held at Lake Tahoe, was featured in a *Forbes* article naming Middlebury as one of the top entrepreneurial colleges in the country.

I share with you the news I happened to pick up last week as students, faculty, and staff returned from the summer. And next week's stories will be equally inspiring—not because of the individual accomplishments, but because of the unique collaboration that helped those individuals to thrive. You can dip into any week at Middlebury—and find



PHOTO BY MIIS. GRAPHIC BY CHRISTIAN JAMBORA

these kinds of stories. They exemplify the principles of a 21<sup>st</sup> century higher education: integration, adaptation, and innovation. Integration is finding a place for our knowledge in the world, as the participants of MiddCORE did. Adaptation is being able to turn on a dime in response to our circumstances, as our nature writers in Alaska did. And innovation is discovering and finding applications for new laws of nature and society, but also, most importantly today, for new laws of big data and information, as our summer researchers did.

And here's another story I'd like to tell as we begin: the story of resilience. Resilience is the ability to bounce back after adversity, and a much-needed skill for meeting life's challenges. Although I wasn't here, I know that last semester was a challenging one for many

reasons. And Middlebury students asked: how do we strengthen our community, even in the midst of setbacks?

In the coming weeks, look for a number of different initiatives that help to develop resilience. We will focus on: 1) building traditions (something I hear students want!); 2) listening to students to create better frameworks for a diverse Middlebury; 3) developing better forms of peer-to-peer support, and deepening other kinds of supportive communities; and 4) working on practices of mindfulness for all different groups at Middlebury. To discuss these issues, I'll be coming to meet with you in the dining halls, and starting my office hours in the coming weeks. I'm looking forward to hearing your ideas. So stay in touch!



# Town and State Debate Bridge Reconstruction

By Annie Grayer  
Local Editor

Throughout July and August, Middlebury residents and state officials have debated whether to replace two state-owned rail bridges in downtown Middlebury.

Originally built in 1850, the two bridges, which are located on Merchants Row and Main Street, are in poor condition and in need of constant repair.

According to the state and The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), renewal of the railroad infrastructure is long overdue, and will help revitalize passenger and freight traffic from Rutland to Middlebury.

With the help of Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB), the South Burlington engineering firm in charge of the project, the current goals are to create higher bridges that meet federal height standards, to improve drainage near the tracks, and to expand the town green near where the trains pass.

Jamie Gaucher, the town's Business Development Director, highlighted the necessity of this project.

"I think everyone (federal government, state government, local government, Vermont rail, local citizens, business owners, etc.) recognizes that the bridges need to be repaired," said Gaucher.

In an attempt to be sensitive to the central location of the bridges and railroad, the state has agreed to make this a locally managed project.

Dean George, chair of the Middlebury Selectboard and head of the subcommittee that deals directly with the local project manager of VTrans, said that "essentially what that does is it allows the town to work with the state and to figure out the best way to replace those two bridges, and at the same time to upgrade the rail ... and to have passenger rail traffic in the not so distant future."

Rich Tatro, the chief engineer at VTrans, also expressed the collaborative nature of the project.

"We have everybody at the table that

needs to be at the table."

However, what began as a one-year project with a \$10 million budget has transformed into roughly a three-year project with a \$55 million budget.

Susan Shashok, a member of the Middlebury Selectboard since 2012, expressed frustration with the change of plans.

"It went from being an acceptable amount and impact to unacceptable," Ms. Shashok explained.

Some local business owners and members of the community support Ms. Shashok because they are afraid that prolonged reconstruction will disrupt their businesses.

Nancie Dunn, owner of Sweet Cecily, stressed the negative impacts the construction will have on local businesses.

"I think that the town in general is very very concerned about a three-year project that can put some of the stores right out of business if there is not adequate access, and not adequate parking redesigned during that time."

Ms. Dunn continued to explain how the current plans for reconstruction will also deeply affect town camaraderie and tourism.

"We've heard really terrifying reports of how long things are going to be, and how much upheaval there is going to be in the town, which is very scary for a townsman."

In addition to highlighting the negative impact that the bridge and railroad reconstruction would have on business growth, members of the community have also raised concerns about safety.

Locals recall the damage caused by the 2007 train derailment, one of 22 derailments in the town's history, as reason to avoid further construction on the current bridges and railroad tracks and to instead consider creating a bypass two miles outside of the downtown area.

Ms. Dunn highlighted some of her safety concerns about having freight trains pass through the town in the future.

"Having a double-decker train going through our town carrying loads of things that could be dangerous, and we don't

***"It's a complicated, complex project in a village setting, and it's going to ultimately involve some hard work, some noise, and some dirt along the way ..."***

**RICH TATRO**  
CHIEF ENGINEER AT THE VERMONT  
AGENCY OF TRANSPORTATION



RACHEL FRANK

Two Middlebury students cross Bridge X, one of the two bridges VTrans is planning to renovate in cooperation with the Middlebury Selectboard.

know what they are necessarily, doesn't thrill me."

Mr. Gaucher explained that the town's request for a bypass is directly influenced by safety concerns.

"I believe any suggestion of a bypass is rooted in concerns around safety — in light of the most recent train derailment in Middlebury and the prospect of additional hazardous materials traveling through town via rail."

However, the suggestion of a bypass was denied in the most recent meeting on the issue.

To shorten the length of construction, VHB proposed that the firm increase twice daily eight-hour shifts to twice daily 10-hour shifts. Although this change would prevent the construction from lasting three years, it would mean that the town would be subject to 20 hours of noise per day.

In response to the pushback that came as a result of this idea, Mr. Tatro remarked, "those estimates are from quite awhile ago. They've been thrown around a little loosely."

However, Tatro does acknowledge that give and take is required to make this project successful.

"There are some things that can be addressed, but there are some things that are

just constraints of working in a small, tight community and incorporating all the design features that need to be incorporated."

Going forward, Mr. George and the rest of the Selectboard plan to remain highly involved.

"We've been involved in this for the last few weeks and we've had a couple of small meetings with them, and we asked them to return and look at other alternatives before we agree to go forward with the tunnel aspect of this. We anticipate another meeting at the end of the month where we will be presented with the other potential alternatives."

Although Mr. Tatro sympathized with the complaints coming from local businesses, he also added a dose of reality.

"It's a complicated, complex project in a village setting," Mr. Tatro explained, "and it's going to ultimately involve some hard work, some noise, and some dirt along the way like any construction project does, but at the end of the day the town of Middlebury is going to have a really nice center there, which we will all be proud of when it's all said and done."

Whatever the next step of the project may be, it is clear that communication and collaboration are necessary in order to guarantee that all voices are heard and considered.

## 6 Percent Sales Tax Extended to Soft Drinks

By Alessandria Schumacher  
Local Editor

On July 1, both the Vermont Sales and Use tax and the Meals and Rooms tax were expanded to cover soda and vending machine purchases, respectively. The statewide sales tax of six percent on all drinks with added sugars is intended to discourage the consumption of beverages with high sugar content and raise funds for efforts to combat obesity. Vermont is now one of 35 states with such a law. Snacks purchased through a vending machine will now be subject to a nine percent Meals and Rooms tax.

The funds raised through this tax are intended to help close the projected \$113 million gap between state spending and revenue. The soft drink tax is estimated to bring in \$7.9-million in revenue and the vending machine tax is estimated to make a revenue of \$1 million.

While revenue is one reason to implement an excise tax of this sort, another reason is to disincentivize the consumption of unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks in order to reduce obesity. The idea behind an excise tax on sugar-sweetened beverages

is to raise the price so that consumers will buy less of the product. High taxes of this sort exist on cigarettes; according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the high tax on cigarettes has been the most effective policy in reducing cigarette use. New studies show that low taxes on soft drinks do not affect obesity rates, stated the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. However, revenue from the tax can still be helpful in fighting obesity in other ways.

Another common objection to excise taxes is that they are regressive, disproportionately affecting those with lower incomes.

In the past, "food and food ingredients" were exempt from the six percent sales tax in Vermont, but Act 57 of 2015 altered their definition. Act 57 states that "Food and food ingredients" does not include alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or soft drinks." Soft drinks are defined as "non-alcoholic beverages that contain natural or artificial sweeteners."

The law does not apply to unsweetened bottled water, seltzer, alcoholic beverages, and any drinks bought through SNAP, known in Vermont as 3SquaresVT.

The nine percent meal tax applies to

all snacks purchased through vending machines, but not to those same items when purchased at a grocery store.

As a member of the Streamlined Sales Tax Agreement (SSTA), Vermont is required to use these definitions of products since they are consistent with other states' definitions as used in their tax policies. As a result, many people believe the wording of the law to be unnecessarily confusing. This has led to problems in the law's implementation, especially for small businesses that do not have point-of-sale software.

For example, some business owners are confused over which products require labels due to the complicated language of the law. Sam Frank of Orange told VTDigger that when he went to buy seltzer, he found that it was labeled with the six percent tax.

"It was kind of expensive, so I asked, 'Why is this so much?' and they said 'Well, we have to tax it,'" Frank said. "I said, 'I don't think so.'"

Jim Harrison, president of the Vermont Retail and Grocers Association, also finds the language of the law a barrier to its accurate implementation.

One of the problems lies in what he calls "a somewhat unclear definition where most iced teas are taxable—flavored, regular and diet—but not the ones that say unsweetened. Club soda is not a soft drink under the definition. Regular V-8 is not taxable, but V-8 Splash or Fusion is taxable. We could go on. It is confusing to customers as well as merchants, but we will continue working to get it right," Harrison said in a statement on the Association for Convenience and Fuel Retailing website.

Director of Government Relations at the American Heart Association, Tina Zuk, was a proponent of the original bill proposed in January. The original proposal included a two cent per ounce tax on soft drinks, which would have been the first law of its kind in the country. She supports the tax as a policy to fight obesity.

"We're really concerned about the obesity crisis in both the number of adults and kids, and we know that sugary drinks are a huge contributor to obesity. So we wanted to discourage consumption," Zuk told VTDigger. Zuk sees the tax as a way to change unhealthy behaviors.



# Quadruple Murder Rocks Barre and Berlin

By Harry Cramer  
Local Editor

In early August, Vermont was rocked by a heinous spree of shootings, culminating in a triple homicide in a townhouse in Berlin. The shootings have sparked intense debate on both gun control and the future of foster care programs in Vermont. Jody Herring, the alleged perpetrator, was angry after losing custody of her 9 year old daughter. Eyewitnesses say Herring drove to the Department for Children and Families (DCF), where she waited in the parking lot for Lara Sobel, a 48-year-old social worker involved in the custody battle. When Sobel left work for the weekend, Herring opened fire twice with a .270 caliber hunting rifle, killing her.

Ken Schatz, the commissioner for DCF, described Sobel as "an experienced social worker" who had been "providing public service for children and families for more than 14 years."

The subsequent morning, law enforcement responded to a call in the neighboring town of Berlin. At the farmhouse, officers discovered the bodies of Julie Ann Falzarano and Rhonda and Regina Herring - the aunt and two cousins of Jody Herring.

Earlier in the day, Jody had warned her family to stay out of the custody battle. "You guys need to stop calling DCF, unless you guys are going to have it coming to you," she told them via the phone. The family had reportedly called DCF on multiple occasions to express concern over the child's well-being.

Tiffany Herring, the daughter of the deceased Julie Ann Falzarano and the first person to discover the bodies, described the traumatic scene to the Burlington Free Press.

"Both doors were wide open," she explained, "and I walked into the living room, and that's

where I saw my mom dead."

Herring has received international attention in the media for her flippant behavior following her arrest. According to prosecutors, Herring was laughing and joking with law enforcement just hours after the shooting in Barre.

Jody Herring pleaded not guilty in Vermont Superior Court in Barre to charges of aggravated murder.

Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin condemned the attack in a press release and reflected on the rarity of such mass killings in his lifetime.

"I think all Vermonters are as shocked, dismayed, horrified and grief-stricken as all of us are," Shumlin said. "I cannot remember, in my lifetime, four people being murdered by the same alleged perpetrator."

Shumlin is not forgetful - as a percentage of the population, Vermont has the lowest rate of gun murder of any state in the nation. In 2010, The U.S. Census Bureau reported that there were .3 gun murders per 100,000 Vermont inhabitants.

Compared to other states, Vermont has a middling rate of gun ownership, estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau at about 42 percent in 2010.

Still, the killings occurred in the midst of a polemic national debate on firearm regulation. Nationally, the lethality and frequency of mass shootings has escalated since the turn of the century. However, popular frustration with lawmakers has not produced momentum for either side, with support for stricter gun laws actually dropping significantly in the past two decades to approximately 50 percent.

It remains to be seen whether a nuanced debate on gun control will occur in 2016 and if Democratic frontrunner Hillary Clinton will use it as a wedge issue against her populist rival Bernie Sanders.

In late June, Pro-Martin O'Malley Super PAC Generation Forward launched a caustic attack ad against fellow



Tiffany Herring of Barre discovered the bodies of three women, including her mother.

contender and former representative of Vermont Bernie Sanders. The ad cites his opposition to the Brady bill, and claims that "Bernie Sanders is no progressive when it comes to guns."

Before the shootings in Berlin and Barre, Sanders defended his position on gun control. "What guns are about in Vermont," the senator told NPR in an interview, "is not what guns are about in Los Angeles or New York where they used not for hunting, or for target practice, but to kill people."

Instead, Sanders emphasized the role of mental health in such massacres. "We have a crisis in the capability of addressing mental health illness in this country," he said. "When people are hurting and are prepared to do something terrible, we need to do something immediately. We don't have that and we should have that."

When it comes to the health of the children involved in custody battles, DCF walks a fine line. If social workers are too aggressive, they risk taking children away from their parents prematurely, but if they are too lenient, they risk leaving children in unsafe households.

Jody Herring had lost custody of her previous two children, and was reportedly frustrated with the agency. "My mom, having lost two other kids, was very adamant on keeping her [the nine year-old daughter]," said Desiree Herring, the adult daughter of Jody Herring.

In May of 2014, DCF came under

withering criticism for its inability to protect children under its care. The Campus reported on the deaths of two children, two year-old Dezirae Sheldon and a fifteen month year-old boy, who both died while they were meant to be in DCF custody. In response, a special legislative committee was tasked with investigating the child welfare system.

A report by Vermont State Police Detective Lt. James Cruise said that there was "a systemic failure of information sharing and accountability" in the case of Dezirae Sheldon.

Now, the death of Sobel has sparked a different form of criticism. Critics of the child welfare system have focused on the grievances of social workers.

The DCF is a busy agency - it received over 17,000 calls in 2013 alone. Yet these workers are woefully undersupported. The agency's inability to de-escalate Jody Herring's custody battle

may be linked with staffing issues. At a forum last summer, many social workers expressed frustration at the current system and its lack of institutional support.

"I'm triaging my cases," said Tracey Brown, a social worker in Burlington, in reference to her enormous workload and her inability to deal with all of the cases simultaneously.

Some social workers have said that they feel pressure from judges to reunify families, and from supervisors to close cases. Such pressure undoubtedly contributes to a lack of caution when dealing with such delicate situations, though it is unclear whether it played a role in the custody battle with Jody Herring.



Jody Herring pleaded not guilty to four charges of murder in August of 2015.

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# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## The Coddling of the Middlebury Mind

In her column in this week's *Campus*, President Laurie Patton stresses the importance of resilience. "Resilience," she writes, "is one of those words we think we

### EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

know, but we don't necessarily stop to reflect on." Starting this year, she writes, the Middlebury community will "embark on a coordinated effort to reflect on the importance of these

qualities and develop programs to enhance them."

The Middlebury Campus

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In addition to the qualities that President Patton attributes to the word, we at the *Campus* define resilience as how Middlebury prepares students for the world they will face after graduation. This requires the ability to engage with points of view that we disagree with, especially those that offend us or make us uncomfortable.

Some of the aspects of this community that we most pride ourselves on – our promotion of liberal ideals and emphasis on mutual respect and safe spaces – can have the effect of insulating us and stifling a diversity of opinion. The world-at-large is not Middlebury, and we fear we are leaving here unprepared for the "unsafe spaces" that await us.

We Middlebury students have a tendency to plug our ears and avoid listening to dissenting opinions instead of learning from them or challenging them. For example, in 2012, Charles A. Dana Professor of Political Science Murray Dry was vilified for taking a legalistic view of affirmative action at a panel designed to showcase a diversity of opinions. A year later, the campus was in uproar over a lecture by University of Pennsylvania Law Professor Amy Wax, with some students even opting to hold up signs reading "racist." Similarly, some felt that Middlebury's invitation to Harvey Mansfield last year was an implicit endorsement of his social views, even claiming he invoked feelings of fear. And when Chance the Rapper came to perform, we asked him to censor his most controversial lyrics, and then demanded a forum to debrief how the whole

ordeal made us feel.

This tendency to react to the uncomfortable with outrage often takes the place of necessary critical discourse. Professor Dry is not racist, and calling the legal view he articulated (which is not necessarily the one he holds) racist because it is not the same as what you would espouse is to not listen and engage it fully. Amy Wax also does not deserve that reactionary label; she is a serious social scientist, and her findings deserve to be met with thoughtful attention and discourse as well.

Similarly, the seemingly endless conversation surrounding Chance the Rapper's lyrics overshadowed a much more meaningful discussion that could have taken place about the pervasiveness of homophobia in hip-hop music. We must learn to disagree without shutting down, refusing to listen and labeling.

Embracing discomfort is critical to our liberal arts education. The most important thing we will each take away from Middlebury is the ability to think critically and clearly communicate our ideas. In order to effectively hone these skills, we need our faculty to challenge the preconceived notions many of us hold and for students who disagree with the liberal status quo to be able to speak up.

In an era of extreme political polarization, it is more important than ever that we emerge from our cocoons of like-mindedness or the illusion of like-mindedness. We fear that students at many institutions have learned to change their language to conform to political correctness, without truly understanding what makes those

very words offensive. It is only by engaging with ideas that offend us that we can learn and ultimately motivate change. We all agree that diversity is important, and now we must learn to make room for diversity of opinion. We all undoubtedly have a lot to learn from people who view the world differently than we do.

This is not to say that everything is in bounds. Hate speech, threats and harassment have no place in this community, nor will they ever. Developing a better understanding of these concepts will make way for the conversations we so badly need to have on campus.

Ultimately, this culture of protectiveness is not unique to Middlebury; as the well-read *Atlantic Monthly* article "The Coddling of the American Mind" discussed, it has developed at many colleges and universities across the country. Following the recent *Atlantic* and *New Yorker* pieces on the topic of political correctness gone awry, the conversation seems to be popping up everywhere. Many observers attribute this trend to the entitlement students feel as consumers of their own educations.

Somewhere along the way we lost our ability to engage in discourse, and it is doing us a disservice. As we usher in a new academic year and a new college president, we as an editorial board will be pushing the envelope a bit more. Our goal? To encourage disagreement and dialogue—and not the anonymous, online kind. We strongly urge all students to lean into discomfort, write an op-ed if you have something to say and have a resilient year.

## Summer: There's No Right Answer

During the first few weeks of the fall 2015 semester at Middlebury College, I can guarantee that one question will

### BRASH MENAGERIE

Sara Hodgkins '17.5  
is from Cincinnati, OH

be repeated over and over again: "What were you up to this summer?" The College itself is asking this question. The Center for Careers and Internships' webpage bears the purposeful headline "What Will Be Your Summer Story?" The CCI's "What did you do this summer?" survey was emailed to us days before classes began. Students are compelled to spend their summers in deliberate, impactful ways, often pursuing practical experiences to prepare them for life after Middlebury. I find it impressive and heartening to discover the wide variety of "Summer Stories" accrued by Middlebury students; but I also worry that our collective attitude towards these varying experiences can become needlessly competitive and one-dimensional.

Language employed by the CCI consistently reinforces the potential importance of career-oriented internship work. Traditionally lucrative fields (read: finance) are often given extra attention. Emails advertising upcoming Goldman Sachs information sessions have already arrived in our inboxes. As the CCI's internship webpage reminds us, "According to a 2014 national survey, 95% of employers said candidate experience is a factor in hiring decisions. Completing one or two internships during your time at Middlebury will give you that valuable experience!"

This situation is not unique to Middlebury. Melissa Benca, director of career services at Marymount Manhattan College in New York, writes, "Internships have become key in today's economy... Graduating students with paid or

unpaid internships on their resume have a much better chance at landing a full-time position upon graduation.

It is all too easy to rank contrasting experiences. *New York Times* contributor Susan H. Greenberg writes, "Summer internships are the new Harvard: prestigious, costly, insanely competitive and the presumed key to all future success... 'Everyone is applying for them!' my daughter said... 'There's so much pressure. It would be really weird to say, 'Oh, hey, I'll just be working at camp again this summer.'"

At elite colleges like Middlebury, it is common for students to seek prestigious work-related experiences. As *New Republic* contributor William Deresiewicz writes, "It is true that today's young people appear to be more socially engaged than kids have been for several decades and that they are more apt to harbor creative

or entrepreneurial impulses. But it is also true, at least at the most selective schools, that even if those aspirations make it out of college—a big "if"—they tend to be played out within the same narrow conception of what constitutes a valid life: affluence, credentials, prestige."

Is such prestige what everyone wants? Certainly, many Middlebury students will seek careers in some of the most traditionally prestigious and lucrative fields. This trend is characteristic of many elite colleges. As Deresiewicz notes, "As of 2010, about a third of graduates went into financing or consulting at a number of top schools, including Harvard, Princeton and Cornell. Whole fields have disappeared from view... It's considered glamorous to drop out of a

selective college if you want to become the next Mark Zuckerberg, but ludicrous to stay in to become a social worker." I certainly do not aim to disparage those who have sought experience in traditionally lucrative or popular fields. But Middlebury ought to be the sort of community that would never belittle the choices of that future social worker. I do want us to embrace the notion that there are a multiplicity of "good" ways to spend a summer, and, tangentially, a college career. I want the rhetoric surrounding "Summer Stories" to acknowledge the validity of both an internship with Deutsche Bank and volunteer work with a local hospice.

In describing her hope that new mothers can respect varying approaches to pregnancy and early parenting, Amy Poehler writes in her memoir *Yes Please*, "'Good for her! Not for me.' That is the motto women should constantly repeat over and over again. 'Good for her! Not for me.' Though giving birth and planning a college summer are wildly different undertakings, there is a degree of universality to Poehler's message. "Oh, Jane attended a Middlebury Language School? Good for her! Not for me. And John taught a summer enrichment program for middle school students? Good for him! Not for me. And Jack spent time at home with family? Good for him! Not for me. And Jill worked for Goldman Sachs? Good for her! Not for me."

No one should have the value of his endeavors decided for him. It is possible to respect choices that do not resonate with you. Please do engage with those who seek opportunities you would not necessarily seek yourself. The ability to engage in robust, meaningful discussions with those whose aspirations differ from your own is part of the beauty of attending a small liberal arts college.

**"Summer internships are the new Harvard: prestigious, costly, insanely competitive and the presumed key to success"**

SUSAN H. GREENBERG  
NEW YORK TIMES CONTRIBUTOR



# The Personal is Political

Summer is a time for reflection. A moment to consider who we are and how we have changed after experiencing the fever dream that is a Middlebury semester. For me, this meant taking a hard look in the mirror and coming to the conclusion that I'm not too happy with some of the choices I've made and patterns I've fostered over the last half year.

It goes without saying that last semester was a difficult one for many on Middlebury's campus.

## PHILOSOPHIE

*Sophie Vaughan '17 is from Oakland, Calif.*

We struggled with the untimely death of a peer and the invisible pain of countless others. We grappled with the challenge of achieving "success" at an elite college and, more, having to define that term for ourselves.

I was dangerously sleep-deprived, valued my friendships less than their worth and forgot to live in the present. What's worse, I felt weak and ashamed for struggling with my sense of self. I felt as if spending time on "personal" issues of balance and body was somehow selfish, a product of first-world privilege.

Who am I to worry about the correct proportion of schoolwork time to socializing time when people in our world's poorest countries are being displaced as a result of climate change and Syrian children are washing up on shores dead due to violence and a global shortage of compassion?

I believed that you could either care about the internal world or the external one. I chose the latter, spending my time writing about environmental injustice and immigrant rights and advocating for Middlebury to divest from fossil fuels. History, let alone our present society, confirmed my assumption.

The 1960's countercultural movement

was divided into two camps. While the politically oriented "New Left" marched in opposition to the Vietnam War, the "New Communists," who held no trust in the power of political activism for social change, fled to the countryside to create self-sufficient communities, believing a truly egalitarian society could only manifest itself through a collective transformation of consciousness.

And more recently, in 2008, environmental activist Van Jones bemoaned the environmental community's inability to unite as a single movement, writing, "Leaders from impoverished areas like Oakland, California, tended to focus on three areas: social justice, political solutions and social change," while those "from more affluent places like Marin County (just north of San Francisco), San Francisco and Silicon Valley had what seemed to be the opposite approach," focusing more on "ecology, business solutions and 'inner change.'"

My hyper-political beliefs are undoubtedly influenced by the fact that I did indeed grow up in that mecca of political activism, Oakland, CA. But it wasn't until I returned there for a brief hiatus at the end of summer and reflected more intensely on how I want to approach this new semester that my blindly political beliefs changed, or rather morphed into something more true to their core.

Almost subconsciously I began repeating the mantra, "The Personal is Political," a phrase I likely picked up from a feminist documentary but never understood beyond a basic level. I did some research and discovered the phrase was first used in the title of a 1969 essay by radical feminist Carol Hanisch.

In the essay, Hanisch addresses criticism of "consciousness raising groups." These were discussion groups that popped up around the

country in the late 1960s for women to share their personal, and otherwise unheard, experiences in patriarchal society. They discussed issues such as workplace discrimination, housework, the family and abortion, issues with political dimensions that had been previously ignored by the dominant New Left groups of the early 1960s. Opponents, mainly women who considered themselves "more political," considered "consciousness raising discussions" to be nothing but meaningless "therapy" and "personal" work. Hanisch sought to dispel this notion, instead asserting that "consciousness raising discussions" were themselves a form of political action that united women to fight male supremacy as a movement, rather than blaming individual women for their oppression.

A year before the publication of her essay, Hanisch put the sentiment of "consciousness raising discussions" into practice by protesting the Miss America pageant. She argued that women are oppressed by impossible standards of female beauty, including the contestants. Though Hanisch's Miss America protest had some strategic flaws, the concept – that the personal truly is political – is powerful, and one which I propose we adopt and sustain throughout the year.

As I advocate for President Patton and the Board of Trustees to divest our endowment from fossil fuels, I will work hard to see the ways in which the fossil fuel industry not only exploits the environment of low-income communities and people of color, but also creates a toxic political culture that holds politicians captive to the fossil fuel industry for campaign donations and distracts those politicians' from building local renewable energy sources. This energy could fuel a new environmentally sustainable, just economy with the capacity to better support my neighbors.

It could also provide my friends and me with an exciting career path that would allow us to stop stressing over how to "balance," aka manipulate, our time to get perfect grades so we can get jobs on Wall Street, and instead allow us to use our time here to pull from the beautiful mystery that is a liberal arts education a new vision for a just and sustainable world.

I have found incredible value in letting go of myself for the sake of a greater cause, and there will undoubtedly be points this year when we will be called to stand in solidarity with our peers who experience horrific discrimination based on race, culture, religion or sexual orientation that we may be unable to trace back to our individual identities. But my wish is that we all reflect more deeply on the profound interconnections in our world and the pain that we all experience when those connections are severed by injustice. I hope that we do not ignore our personal struggles but rather let them empower us to fight for systemic liberation from an oppressive and environmentally destructive economy and society.

Maybe this year, groups that have not been traditionally political-activism oriented will speak out in a manner that feels appropriate to their personal contemplations, and activist groups will deepen their resolve through personal reflection, finding new allies in those whose meditations compel them to see their personal struggles in connection to a larger movement. May we all begin by reflecting on the words of Australian aboriginal rights activist Lilla Watson: "If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. If you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."

# Roots of Creativity

Welcome back to Midd. I am studying abroad this year, and this column will take a hiatus, but the *Campus* generously invited me to write a piece for the first edition. Feeling that a defense of the Iran nuclear deal would be overly dry, I will advocate – especially to first-years – on behalf of the liberal arts education.

These are complicated times. The upper class in America, still mainly white, controls more wealth than at anytime since the Great Depression, but the electorate is growing steadily more heterogeneous. Information proliferates, but old cultural polarities about race, abortion and economic opportunity remain as fixed as at anytime in the last half-century. These problems of a free society are of small concern to the rest of the world, most of which still lives under some kind of autocratic regime. America's military has proved an imperfect midwife for freedom and democracy abroad. Access to digital networks and knowledge, however, could enable America's military to better perform that endeavor. Yet technology has often only enabled the faults of human nature to be revealed on bigger stages: see the metastases of militant Islam or the mass surveillance of Chinese, British and American citizens. Per-

haps the little green men of Kepler-452b are simultaneously facing the same problems.

Since coming to Middlebury, I have become convinced that studying the liberal arts uniquely equips students to deal with uncertainty and complexity. What colleges like Middlebury offer that the most competitive schools do not is the liberty to take what classes you like, across many disciplines, and then construct a network of interrelated ideas from whatever material intrigues, describes or inspires you. Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay "Intellect" better expresses this process of intellectual exploration:

"The growth of the intellect is spontaneous in every expansion. The mind that grows could not predict the times, the means, the mode of that spontaneity....We do not determine what we will think. We only open our sense, clear away, as we can, all obstruction from the fact, and suffer the intellect to see. We have little control over our thoughts. We are the prisoners of ideas. They catch us up for moments into their heaven, and so fully engage us, that we take no thought for the morrow, gaze like children, without an effort to make them our own. By and by we fall out of that rapture, bethink us where we have seen, what we have seen, and repeat, as truly

as we can, what we have beheld."

How to attain the rapture of gazing like a child? "You have an instinct, then an opinion, then a knowledge," says Emerson. "Trust the instinct to the end, though you can render it no reason. By trusting it to the end, it shall ripen into truth." Take courses you are interested in! Last fall, I took Introduction to Political Philosophy, Shakespeare's Histories and American Foreign Policy. The professors were excellent, the courses rigorous and I found that Shakespeare, Plato and George Kennan share some ideas, (although I was laughed down when I suggested that language in Henry IV Part I echoed language from the Republic, and therefore that Shakespeare must have read Plato.)

The revelation of truth, says Emerson, is "always a miracle, which no frequency of occurrence or incessant study can ever familiarize. It is...a form of thought for now, for the first time, bursting into the universe, a child of the old eternal soul, a piece of genuine and immeasurable greatness." Revelation is indeed the mark of the genius, says Emerson, but though the "composed attitude of library" does not alone spark genius, "the oracle comes, because we had previously laid siege to the shrine." We only cannot predict

when.

Surely the oracle of truth has use outside of the academy. Today we call it creativity, or innovation. If you take Emerson at his word, as I do, than the quality of being creative – eminently marketable – is no more than knowledge of the process of allowing your mind to combine dissimilar things – "the

## U.S. AND THEM

*Jack Turnage '17.5 is from Denver, CO.*

There can be any better place in the world to tinker, to learn and to let your thoughts brew in latent ferment than a college like Middlebury.

The process is not easy. It is not for the man of repose, not for the seeker of "rest, commodity and reputation," but for the lover of truth, (or, perhaps, of himself.) "He in whom the love of truth predominates," says Emerson, "will abstain from dogmatism, and recognize all the opposite negations, between which, as walls, his being is swung. He submits to the inconvenience of suspense and imperfect opinion." Why would we ever submit to this "self-denial, no less austere than the saint's?" Because we are obtaining the education to do so.

# Letter from the SGA President

Hello, Middlebury, and welcome to the 2015-2016 academic year.

I ran for Student Government Association (SGA) President on the premise that I am a leader who listens.

It is now up to me to breathe life into this concept. I envision a SGA that is relevant, thoughtful and engaging and, above all, one that truly seeks to represent the student body. And so, with the new academic year ahead, I am extending a formal invitation to all of you to hold me accountable.

Stop me in Proctor and tell me about your latest idea for improving student life. Approach me in Crossroads and ask what the SGA has really been up to behind the scenes. Shoot me an email and I promise you someone from the SGA will respond

within 24 hours. Of course, the onus is not entirely on all of you, nor should it be. This year we are introducing some new components that make an open stream of communication between the SGA and the student body easier than ever.

First, we are instituting "Open Conversations," an opportunity for anyone to stop by the Crest Room in McCullough on Sunday nights at 7 pm to discuss life at Middlebury in a free-flowing, non-moderated setting. We will select and advertise a topic that is reflective of conversations happening around campus and relevant administrators will be invited to attend. A more typical Senate meeting will follow Open Conversations, at which time Senators will formalize the ideas discussed into bills and resolutions. Of course, this component of the night will be entirely open to all students as well.

We will also introduce a more consistent social media presence. On our Facebook page, "Middlebury College SGA," instead of solely publicizing SGA's activi-

ties, we will expand to function as a centralized page for information highlighting all of the wonderful things happening at this school – and, of course, there are so many wonderful things happening here every single day. Similarly, we are rethinking our strategy when it comes to conveying information through all-student emails, realizing that there is a fine line to toe between inbox-flooding and a complete lack of communication.

In addition, I will be hosting small group dinners in my Atwater suite where students from all classes and social circles will have the opportunity to engage in a dialogue about how the SGA can better serve their cause or community.

We will continue to hold "Coffee Hour" on late nights in BiHall and Davis Library where your class senators, commons senators and I will be there to chat informally or answer directed questions as you take a break from work and grab a free coffee.

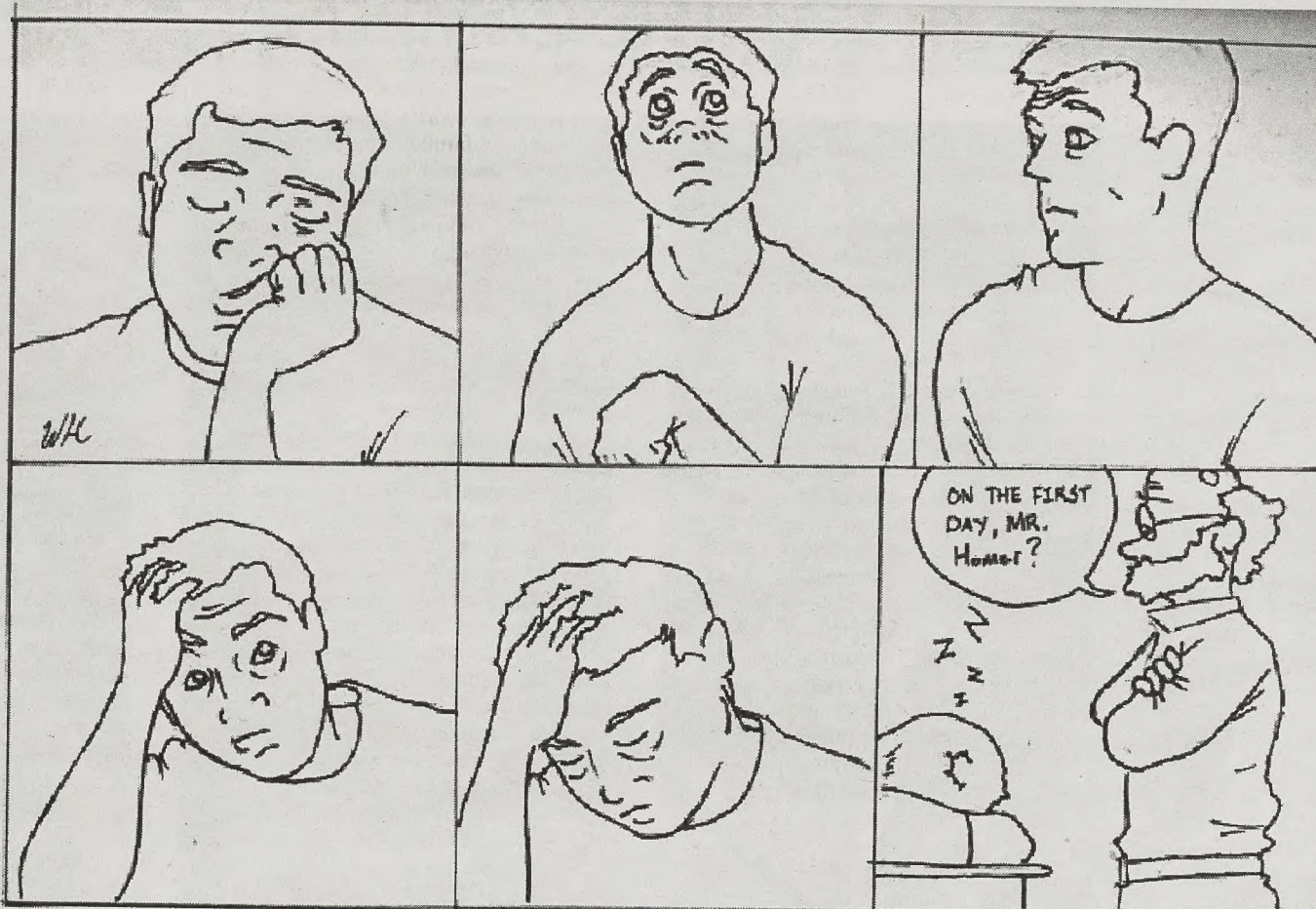
These initiatives are all part of my concerted effort to lead through listen-

ing, and for the entire SGA to increase its transparency and communication with the student body and the administration. I will do all that I can to keep you in the know as we begin to collaborate with Old Chapel to work towards implementing our goals for the year, which include 10 o'clock Proc, an extensive peer-counseling network and a student-run bar. I also want you all to keep me in the know. If there is something you are frustrated about, if you feel there is nothing significant happening in the SGA or if you want to get involved with a movement, please send me an email and we will schedule a coffee.

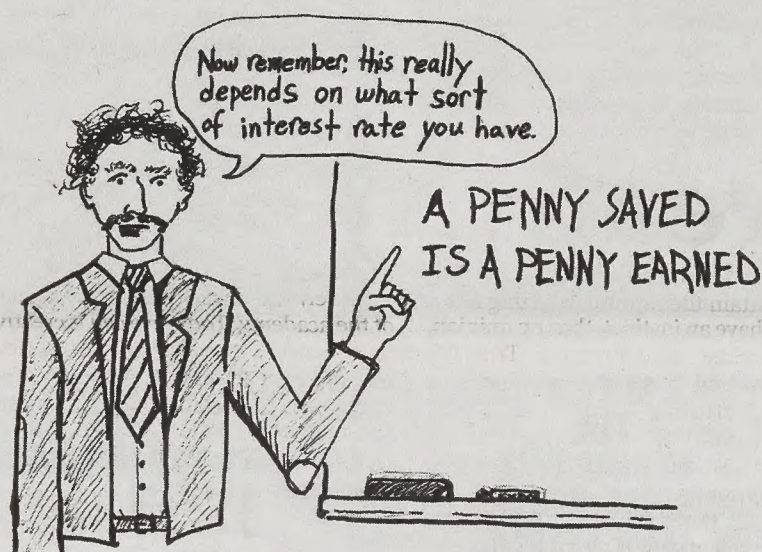
Let us not wait until the end of the year and look back at all we could have done. Instead, let us be thoughtful. Reach out. Come to Open Conversations. I think you will be surprised. We can accomplish a lot when we mobilize our community as a united front.



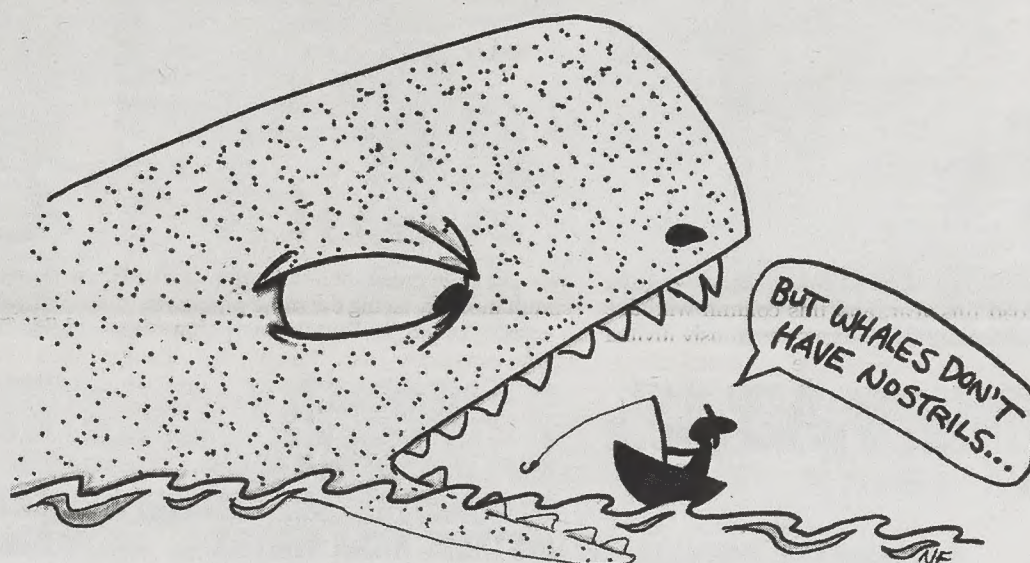
## Campus Cartoons



WIN HOMER



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NOLAN ELLSWORTH

## The Value of Doing Less While Abroad

The end of my second week in England is coming to a close. I have started getting into a routine. I finally know how to walk from my building to

### ECHOES

Alex Newhouse '17 is from Stonington, CO.

Oxford's library. Research has dominated most of my days this week; I have buckled down and started work on my first big project during my study abroad semester here.

I have also been able to experience a lot of English culture since I arrived. My friends and I have visited a long list of different pubs, I have had tea and biscuits in the early afternoon and my program has brought me to a couple of heritage sites, such as the cathedral at Winchester and the Roman structures at Bath.

It has been a fantastic experience so far, and I have already learned a pretty shocking amount about the country, the University and myself. But over the course of my time here I have struggled with a mounting pressure: the urge to do more, see more, achieve more, fill every waking hour with something new so that I get the absolute most out of this time abroad. In other words, it is the pressure to wring as much out of this

short semester so that I feel like I have not missed anything.

What I am feeling certainly is not new; it is the perpetual traveler's curse, the monumental task of trying to fit as much in as possible into an extremely limited time period. But I did not consider that it would affect me this much. After all, I am here for three and a half months, not three days.

And yet, it still nags at me. That voice in my mind continually compels me to go see a new church, to visit a new part of town, to try a different beer at a pub that I have never been to. As a person who relies heavily on routine and who tries to balance each day with enough downtime to keep mentally healthy, this trip has been a shock to the system. I have been exhausted each day, too busy to sit down for thirty minutes and read a book in my room by myself.

But this week I realized that I cannot just keep going like this. I will burn out if I do. So, I accepted something that is extremely difficult for any traveler to acknowledge.

It is okay if you do not do everything, and it is okay if you do nothing for an hour or two everyday.

Being able to sit back and simply be at peace with not doing anything is really tough. It is hard to just let the world go by. But I have found that it is also necessary.

Because traveling and studying abroad is not that different than, say, moving homes or starting a new school. It is really similar to what the Middlebury freshmen are going through right now. You get hit by wave after wave of new experiences, new acquaintances and new routines to establish. You must find that which grounds you and reminds you that things are not so different than they used to be. You have

to remember that the mental overload of going to a new place or starting a new phase in your life does not mean that you are a different person or that you have to continually force yourself to explore the entire breadth of that place or phase.

It is okay to do nothing, to sit in your room alone with a book for a few hours, because that is how to find that grounding. I have made myself step away from all the activities and that compulsion to keep moving so that I can breathe and remember that I need to give my mind and body a rest.

After all, traveling, studying

abroad and starting college are not about trying to do everything. They are about doing what makes you happy. I find that I am most content when I let myself go sit in a park for a while or read a book somewhere secluded. This allows me to appreciate those places I do want to go visit even more.

I have realized that I need to stop worrying about what I am missing or what I might not get to see, and instead focus on those places and people that I do see. I have to accept that it is all right that I will probably not go to Ireland or France while I am here, just as it is all right that I might not get to try out as many restaurants or pubs as I originally thought I would. What really matters is that when I actually go somewhere with my friends, I recognize the moment and experience that moment to the fullest. I should not worry about what is next. It is not the sum of all the different things that I do here that determine the worth of my experience, just like it is not the number of people you meet or things you do at college that decide college's value. Rather, I have to remember that my abroad semester's value comes from simply having a few meaningful experiences and appreciating each of those individually.

**"I have struggled with a mounting pressure: the urge to do more, see more, achieve more..."**



## THE CAMPUS'

## FALL



GOLF

**NESCAC FINISH: W 2ND, M 1ST**  
**CAPTAINS: W MONICA CHOW, M N/A**

Both the men's and women's golf teams begin their seasons with a fall slate of tournaments. The men's side played in its first invitational at Williams on Sept. 12-13, while the women kick off their schedule this weekend, Sept. 19-20, at the NYU Invitational.

After graduating four seniors who consistently shot in the 70s (including one first-team and one second-team all-NESCAC performer), Head Coach Bill Beaney and the men's team will look to gain the experience necessary to compete in the NESCAC in the spring. With Fitz Bowen '17 studying abroad this fall, Bennett Doherty '18 is the only returning player with NCAA experience. In the final round of the NESCAC championships, Doherty medaled to help the Panthers take the prize. Juniors Rodrigo Andrade, Eduardo Ramos, and Graham Kenter all have tournament experience, and Beaney will also have five first-years at his disposal to vie for spots in the lineup.

Bill Mandigo and the women's team will have to replace three of its top eight scorers, and will have to turn to its youth to do so. With only one senior on its roster, Monica Chow, Mandigo will rely on growth from underclassmen like Theodora Yoch '17 and sophomores Hope Matthews, Katharine Fortin, and Sarah Breckinridge to fill the void. In the spring of 2015, the Panthers finished in the top three of all three tournaments it entered, indicating the Panthers have a chance to compete for a NESCAC championship this spring. That begins for both teams with a strong fall to grow as players and gain much needed experience.



FIELD HOCKEY

**2014 RECORD: 19-2**  
**NESCAC FINISH: 3TH**  
**CAPTAINS: JILLIAN GREEN, SHANNON HUTTEMAN, BRIDGET INSTRUM, ANNA KENYON**

The field hockey team is coming off of another deep run into the NCAA Championship run and a NESCAC title and is hoping to achieve an even greater level of success in 2015. Middlebury has now conquered three straight NESCAC crowns and been to four straight title games.

Though the team's leading scorer and goalkeeper from a year ago have graduated, there is still a wealth of talent left in Middlebury. Captains Bridget Instrum '16, Shannon Hutteman '16, Jillian Green '16 and Anna Kenyon '16 will be in charge of marshalling that talent.

Forwards Instrum and Pam Schulman '17 should lead the scoring attack for the Panthers. Each tallied 11 goals a year ago. Hollis Perticone '18 and Olivia Jurkowitz '18 will tally some points as forwards as well. The midfielders are a youthful and skilled unit. Annie Leonard '18, Lauren Berestecky '17 and Caroline Knapp '18 are the most experienced returners in that unit. The defense is spearheaded by captains Green and Hutteman. Emily Miller '18 steps in as the team's new goalkeeper after studying under the graduated Emily Knapp '15.

The Panthers have started off the season strong with two big wins against Conn. College and Smith College last weekend. Their title pursuit continues with matches at Amherst and home against Hamilton this coming weekend.



WOMEN'S SOCCER

**2014 RECORD: 10-7**  
**NESCAC FINISH: 7TH**  
**CAPTAINS: AMANDA HAIK, KATHERINE HOBBS, HANNAH ROBINSON, JAMIE SOROKA**

After a season of mixed of results, women's soccer is looking to return to the Final Four as it did in 2013. Peter Kim returns to the helm for his 12th year with an talented team on the field.

The captains, and the only seniors, Jamie Soroka '16 and Hannah Robinson '16 lead the team with experience. Soroka, who appeared in all 17 games last fall, was the team's leading scorer with 15 points. A First-Team All-NESCAC honoree, Robinson provided goals in many tight situations last season and was tied for third on the team with eight points. Junior captains Katherine Hobbs '17 and Amanda Haik '17 will anchor the midfield and defense respectively. Hobbs logged nearly every minute last fall while Haik was part of a defense that achieved seven combined shutouts, and surrendered just 1.12 goals per game. Emily Eslinger '18 will start as the Panthers' leading goalkeeper. Kim is heartened by the many strengths his team is already showing.

"Our team's strengths include its work rate, technical ability, and tactical flexibility. Our biggest challenge will be simply to come together as a relatively young team. We have lots of talent, and many of our players just need more game experience.



FOOTBALL

**2014 RECORD: 6-2**  
**NESCAC FINISH: 6TH**  
**CAPTAINS: MATTHEW MINNO, TIMMY PATRICIA**

The Panthers open the 2015 season with championship expectations after going 6-2 last season, falling in two games by a total of 15 points. New offensive coordinator, former Bowdoin head coach Dave Caputi '81, will step right in alongside Head Coach Bob Ritter. NESCAC Co-Offensive Player of the Year Matt Milano '16 returns at quarterback to lead an aerial assault, and favorite targets Matt Minno '16 and Ryan Rizzo '17 are back on the receiving end. Jonathan Hurvitz '17 figures to see most of the snaps in the backfield. Tight end, an historically prolific position in Ritter's offense, will be a strength with Trevor Miletich '16 and Dan Fulham '18 both capable of blocking and receiving. A bevy of talented players, both upperclassmen and freshmen, will see time at the skill positions, as Middlebury's up-tempo, no-huddle offense lends itself to a lot of rotation in those spots. The offensive line lost a lot to graduation, but Win Homer '17 and Andy Klarman '17 will anchor that unit as the returners with the most starting experience.

Middlebury's defense often goes overlooked because of the program's explosive offense, but the Panthers allowed the second fewest points per game in the NESCAC in 2014, and the defense should once again be stout. The front seven is stacked. Gil Araujo '16, Jake Clapp '16, Kyle Ashley '16 and Henry Castillo '17 are all experienced on the line, and the linebacking corps might be the best in the NESCAC. Tim Patricia '16 is a three-time All-Conference honoree, and Addison Pierce '17 is just as impressive at his side. The pair will be aided by linebackers Aaron Slodowitz '18 and Wesley Becton '18. In the defensive backfield safety Dan Pierce '16 and corner Nate Leedy '17 are stalwarts in both coverage and the run game. Kevin Hopsicker '18 and Andrew McGrath '17 step into starting roles at safety and corner, respectively.

The Panthers' first game comes on Sept. 26 on the road at Wesleyan.



# SPORTS PREVIEW



VOLLEYBALL

**2014 RECORD: 12-12**  
**NESCAC FINISH: 7TH**  
**CAPTAIN: HANNAH BLACKBURN**

After a solid 2014 season where they placed fourth in the NESCAC last year, the Women's Volleyball team is looking to improve upon their 6-4 in-conference, and 12-12 overall record from last year.

Though the Panthers are entering the season with no returning seniors, they have no shortage of returning talent. Outside Hitter Becca Raffel '18 was named NESCAC's 2014 Co-Rookie of the year, while captain Hannah Blackburn '17, a Setter, made the 2014 Second-Team All-NESCAC. Middle Hitters Gabi Rosenfeld '17 and Melanie English '17, Outside Hitters Charlotte Devine '17 and Emily Kolodka '18, and Jen Ayer '18, the returning Libero, will stand out on both offensive and defensive ends.

The combined 34 years of experience of Head Coach Sarah Raunecker and veteran Assistant Coach Brian Dunlop will surely help them to bring together Middlebury's youngest team in recent history. As recent graduates themselves, Assistant Coaches Meg Anderson '14 and Lizzy Reed '15 will also contribute to the team's success.

"Our goal at this point is to win NESCACs. It always is," Blackburn said of the team's aspirations for this season. "We also set goals to be fierce, be positive, and believe in ourselves as a team. We are pretty young, but we have a lot of determination and are ready to prove ourselves."

The second weekend in October will be a big one for the Panthers, as Middlebury takes on games third-ranked Amherst at home on Oct. 9, and second-ranked Williams at home on Oct. 10. However, the big game against the reigning NESCAC champion, Tufts, will have to wait until Oct. 31.



MEN'S SOCCER

**2014 RECORD: 9-3-5**  
**NESCAC FINISH: 3RD**  
**CAPTAINS: GREG CONRAD, DEKLAN ROBINSON, ANDRES RODLAUER**

After a largely successful season ended in devastating fashion for the Middlebury men's soccer team, the Panthers have plenty of motivation and reason for optimism entering the 2015 season. Coach Seward's squad finished 9-3-5 after losing to Amherst in the NESCAC semifinals by penalty kicks. Seward returns much of the team—10 returning players started more than half of the time last season—that outscored its opponents by 17 goals over the 2014 season. The Panthers weren't just beating up on their lesser opponents either; they tied eventual national champion Tufts and defeated eventual NESCAC champion Bowdoin 2-0.

Seward certainly has a promising core to take a step forward this season. Reigning NESCAC player of the year Greg Conrad '17 will pair with his fellow first-team all-conference and 2013 NESCAC Rookie of the Year teammate Adam Glaser '17 up front. The dynamic duo at forward surely hope to repeat or outdo their 16 total goals (eight apiece) scored in 2014.

Seward will have to make some decisions in regard to his midfield after losing four contributors, including two regular starters. However, the team still has several players, like Luis Echeverria '17, Tim Ogle '17, Philip Skayne '17, and Tom Dils '17, with starting experience.

If history repeats itself, the Panthers should be stellar in the back third of the field this year, with a returning back line of Deklan Robinson '16, Andres Rodlauer '16, Tom Bean '17 and Kirk Horton '17, in front of Greg Sydor '17, the 2014 NESCAC goalie of the year.

It looks like the Panthers have a real shot at a special season. With two of the best goal scorers in the league and an amazingly stout defense, they may just be ready to take the next step.



CROSS COUNTRY

**2014 RECORD: W 6TH, M 13TH**  
**NESCAC FINISH: W 1ST, M 3RD**  
**CAPTAINS: OLIVIA ARTAIZ, CAROLINE GUIOT, SAM CARTWRIGHT, SEBASTIAN MATT**

The Men's and Women's Cross Country teams are looking forward to this season as a great opportunity to continue their programs' histories of illustrious success. The women's team, which has won six NCAA national titles since 2000, finished sixth last fall, while the men have built up several top-15 finishes over the years, including a 13th-place finish last season. The lady Panthers enter the season ranked third nationally, while their male counterparts are tied for 16th.

Middlebury Cross Country is returning with a deep and experienced squad, but the women in particular have lost some of their fastest runners, with people like Alison Maxwell '15, a finalist for the NCAA's Woman of the Year, having graduated in the spring.

Leading the women are captains Olivia Artaz '16 and Caroline Guiot '16, as well as the seasoned seniors Adrian Walsh '16 and Katherine Tercek '16. The women will look for Robin Vincent '18 and Erzsie Nagy '17, both of whom suffered from injury last year, to contribute to scoring as well.

Meanwhile, four of the men's top-seven runners are returning to the lineup. Seniors Sebastian Matt '16 and Sam Cartwright '16 are team captains, while Luke Carpinello '16 Sam Klockenkemper '17 and Brian Rich '17 look to lead in scoring.

Cross Country Head Coach Nicole Wilkerson is excited for what the season has in store.

"Both the teams are very talented and have a lot of experience," Wilkerson said. "We have tremendous strength on both squads. Last year we were really hampered for the championship meets with illnesses and injuries, and did not race as well as we could have if we went to the line with healthy bodies. It is great that we have so much talent though, and both teams are excited for the season."



TENNIS

**2014 RECORD: W 11-7, M 22-4**  
**NESCAC FINISH: W 7TH, M 7TH**  
**CAPTAINS: W N/A, M PALMER CAMPBELL, JACKSON FRONS, ALLEN JACKSON, ARI SMOLYAR, JACK WELCH**

The Middlebury men's tennis team last won the national championship in 2004 and in 2010 and came up just short last season, falling to Claremont-Mudd-Scripps in the NCAA championship match. Bob Hansen and his team have a chance to continue the trend of winning it all every sixth year as all six singles players return for the Panthers. Ari Smolyar '16, the top singles player, finished last season ranked sixth nationally and first in the Northeast after winning a match at the NCAA singles tournament. Noah Farrell '18 slots into the second spot after winning NESCAC Rookie of the Year, followed by seniors Palmer Campbell '16 (15-9, 14-4 in doubles matches), Jackson Frons '16 (21-11, 14-7 in doubles matches), and William de Quant '18 (23-4, 15-3 in doubles matches). Allen Jackson '16 and Kyle Schlanger '18 will likely share duties in the bottom of the lineup.

The women's tennis team is, similarly, in an enviable position for the 2015 season after returning all but one player from a 2014 team that reached the NCAA semifinals. Ria Gerger '16, the top singles player, also finished last season ranked sixth nationally with a record of 15-4. Without Alexandra Fields, the 2013 ITA Rookie of the Year who is studying abroad this semester, there is plenty of opportunity for other players to step up for Head Coach Mike Morgan. Fortunately for Morgan, he has plenty of players with experience capable of doing so: Lily Bondy '17 (10-12), Kaysee Orozco '17 (14-11), Margot Marchese '16 (4-9), Shannon Gibbs '18 (9-6), and Sadie Shackelford '16 (3-0) all saw time in the starting lineup last year. Both teams will participate in various tournaments, including the Intercollegiate Tennis Association regional championships, during the fall portion of the schedule, and then will compete in NESCAC and NCAA play in the spring. The fall season will provide valuable experience for teams hoping for special seasons.





## How is it Still a (Midd) Thing?

By Charlie Ascher  
Senior Columnist

Readers, it is with great pleasure that I welcome you to another year at Middlebury College. Do I really have any grounds to do this? No, not really. You're back, I'm back, but I'm not your professor or anything, so do you really even care? Regardless, I'd still like to welcome all five of you to my column.

Welcoming aside, why this fine publication still allows me to write is beyond me; my last column was about driving people to McDonald's. Like anything new, this year has brought about some changes. The car column is dead, and with it, so are the McDonalds runs. Long live the car column. So, I was tasked with coming up with a new column idea. Original and creative person that I am, I decided to take someone else's idea. After another successful summer as a professional TV watcher and amateur microwave chef, I decided to shamelessly rip-off John Oliver's *Last Week Tonight*. Hey, they say imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. My dad says it's because I'm lazy. He's wrong; I'm just efficient.

*Last Week Tonight* runs a recurring segment descriptively titled "How Is This Still a Thing", during which they question topics like daylight savings time (which is seriously the worst) and the Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Issue. Here at Midd, I often find myself asking the same question. I could be asking this question about big things such as our ever-increasing tuition, but naw, I ask this question about vegan riblets. Why? Because vegan riblets are the worst, that's why. Proctor's fruit and cheese quesadillas? Hogging study rooms? Lack of Proctor bowls? Bannerweb crashing? How are these still a thing? I'm all about tackling the big issues here in this column. Buckle up; this is going to be hard-hitting investigative journalism. I binge-watched *The Newsroom* this summer. Don't worry, I've got this under control.

For example, let's go back to my good friends, vegan riblets. I remember it like it was yesterday, one fine day two years ago, after waiting in the Ross lunch line for probably the lifetime of three generations of gnats, I got to the food. #blessed. After grabbing enough sweet potato fries to feed a family of four, I glanced at the next tray. Sweet! Ribs!

Wrong. Riblets. Through the line, I sat down to eat. Finished with the fries, I went for a huge bite of the "ribs." At that moment I think I saw death (no exaggeration). Vegan riblets have a taste profile that can be best described as dog-foody and a texture somewhere between cardboard and foam home insulation. After just one bite I got the sense that if an atomic bomb ever hit The College all that would be left would be the Freeman International Center and the leftover vegan riblets.

My lunch was ruined. Vegan riblets are the worst. I know there are at least 37 better vegan meat alternatives, so why in the name of Ron Liebowitz are riblets still being served in the dining halls? This is an institutional tragedy. Vegan riblets, how are they still a thing?

# Fleischer '82, ex-White House Press Secretary, Tweets 9/11 Memories

By Jack Apollo George  
Features Editor

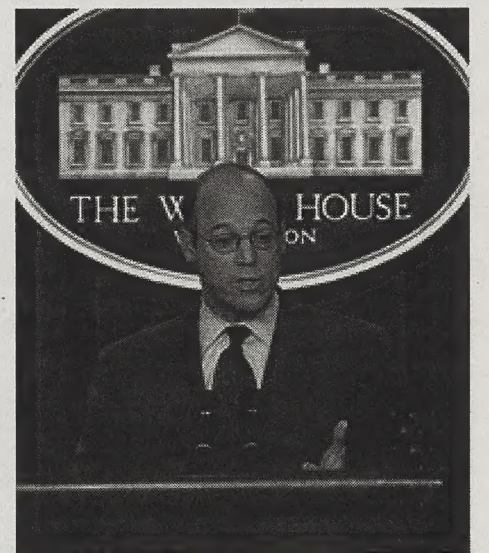
Ari Fleischer '82 is one of The College's most prominent graduates in the world of politics. He was ever-present in the media as the White House Press Secretary during the crucial first years of George W. Bush's presidency (2001 - 2003). He was with the President when the tragic events of 9/11 unfolded. For the last three years on September 11, he has tweeted what went on behind the scenes. Posting the event that had happened at the corresponding time of day, he produced a harrowing and revealing account of perhaps the defining event of this century so far. Though the medium used for expression could be seen as trivializing such a vital moment, the posts make for chilling reading. They will long remain one of the most precise historical accounts of the first reactions of those whose duty it was to face the nation in the wake of such a disaster and respond.

*The Campus* spoke to Mr. Fleischer on the phone and he pointed out how challenging the process had been, noting that after tweeting all day about such an emotional time, it was his most draining experience working in the White House. He started tweeting his memories almost by accident. In 2012, feeling he should share some of the notes and photographs he had from the day, he started posting them. They elicited such a response that he could not stop. Now, he is gratified by the fact that young people are learning about 9/11 directly from his tweets and that school

teachers have said they will use his tweets as classroom material. Reflecting on the changing nature of communications he remarks how "powerful a medium twitter can be. [It] has the power to make you live moment by moment. And for a day like September 11, capturing it moment by moment and sharing it was my goal."

Though the tweets are all recommended reading and all appear @AriFleischer, some of the more revealing comments are well worth highlighting. When the first plane struck, Fleischer was accompanying the President on a visit to a school in Sarasota, Fla. They all still assumed it to be an accident. But when the second plane hit, the President had already begun reading to the schoolchildren. As such, the President was 'one of the few people in the world not watching TV'.

Another remarkable fact exposed by Fleischer's memory is that when aboard Air Force One (the aircraft designed to transport the President) Bush gave the chilling orders that commercial airlines may be shot down if necessary and that and that the military be put on the highest alert status in 28 years. As the normal filters were scrapped in such a time of emergency, unreliable rumors were able to seep into the Presidential circle, including the possibilities that Air Force One was under attack, that there was a car bomb at the State Department and that a high speed object was moving towards the Bush family ranch. Amid such an aura of panic and confusion there was even a guard posted outside the cockpit. With so little information to go



Former White House Press Secretary Ari Fleischer '82 addressing questions.

on, an inside job from those at the very top could not have been ruled out.

Intrigued by Fleischer's views on contemporary foreign policy issues, *The Campus* wondered whether he felt that the country was safer now than it was just before 9/11 or whether threats and security had increased in equal measure. He was unwaveringly clear: "I think we are absolutely safer." Despite his partisan views, he was surprisingly supportive of the Obama administration, at least in terms of homeland security. Mentioning how Obama had continued Bush's work he pointed out that there was now a "bipartisan template" to fighting terrorism. Controversially, he said that the crucial elements of that strategy included "keeping Guantanamo open, warrantless wire-tappings, indefinite detentions and drone strikes."

Speaking at an Alumni Achievement Award ceremony here at the college in 2002, he faced a lot of backlash from students regarding the Iraq War. *The Campus* asked him if he thought that those who were against the war were vindicated by the emergence of the self-proclaimed Islamic State in the region, a force arguably more chaotic and dangerous than either Al-Qaeda or Saddam Hussein's regime. He disagreed, believing instead that the Iraq that George W. Bush left for Obama to inherit was "a fledgling democracy" and that the harm arose out of Obama's reluctance to engage with it – that he "walked away from it."

Ari Fleischer now runs a sports communications business.

Ari Fleischer  
@AriFleischer

9:37 am American Airlines Flight 77 crashes into the Pentagon.

FRI, SEP 11 2015 09:41:22

Ari Fleischer  
@AriFleischer

Just as we arrived at the school, I got a page from Brian Bravo on my staff back at the WH telling me a plane had hit the World Trade Center

FRI, SEP 11 2015 08:49:22

Tweets from Ari Fleischer '82 in remembrance of September 11, 2001.

## MIDD ALUM SIMPLIFIES GARDENING FOR URBANITES

By Emilie Munson  
Features Editor

Less than five miles from the College, one company is working to transport the benefits of Vermont agriculture to urban millennials across the United States.

A few years ago, Cam MacKugler '09 was housesitting at a dairy farm in Middlebury when he had an epiphany. As he pulled weeds from the fertile soil, the former architecture major asked himself how he could simplify gardening for people who have no money, no time and no space. A few minutes later, he had sketched his first Seedsheet.

Today, MacKugler is the Founder and CEO of Cloudfarm, a company focused on designing products that allow anyone to experience the boon of a homegrown harvest. Cloudfarm's first product is the Seedsheet, a woven polypropylene cloth interspersed with seedpods, perfectly spaced to ensure that a healthy garden will grow. The cloth separating the seedpods means that no weeding is necessary; the cloth only needs to be placed on top of soil and watered occasionally.

Seedsheet's website describes the product as an "agricultural paint by numbers."

"We are basically 3-D printing a garden and shipping it to you," said MacKugler.

Handmade in Vermont and contain-



Seedlings grow from Cloudfarm's entirely Vermont-made Seedsheet.

ing non-GMO Vermont seeds and soil, Seedsheets wear the tagline 'Made in Vermont, proudly.'

So far, Cloudfarm and its unique Seedsheet have had impressive success. The company was launched on Kickstarter in November 2014 and in one month, Cloudfarm raised \$30,664 from donations, a remarkable number considering that most Kickstarter campaigns raise less than \$10,000. Investors, many of them local Vermonters in the agricultural sector, contacted MacKugler before the donation period had even closed.

Since producing their first Seedsheet on May 21, 2015, sales have been steadily increasing despite the fact that the true growing season, spring, is still

months away.

"It's not a tough sell," MacKugler explained. A 2014 report by the National Garden Association found that millennials (age 18 to 34) were the fastest growing population segment of food gardeners. Millennials spent an all-time high of \$1.2 billion on food gardening in 2013.

Today, Cloudfarm sells 16 different types of Seedsheets — from flower Seedsheets to tea Seedsheets to "green smoothie" Seedsheets containing a variety of leafy greens — in five sizes ranging from a flower box to a large garden.

Recently, the innovative Seedsheet has been grabbing attention from media outlets and retailers alike. The Seedsheet was featured by *USA Today*, *Fast Company*, and *Vice*. In addition, the Home Depot agreed to sell Seedsheets online, and on September 24, Zulily will begin online sales, as well.

In the future, Cloudfarm hopes to expand to sell customizable Seedsheets, allowing consumers to mix-and-match any number of plants to grow, and to sell commercial Seedsheets large enough for a farmer to roll out over his fields.

Regardless of the company's rapid growth and popularity, Cloudfarm is still committed to keeping its "Plant 1 Pledge 1" program that began during its Kickstarter campaign. "Plant 1 Pledge 1" gives investors an option to donate one Seedsheet to a school. True to its mission of making gardening simple for

Continued on page 11.



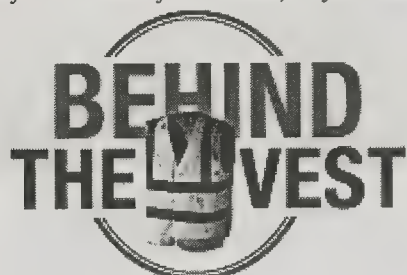
# Spending Summer on the Organic Farm: Students Challenged By Recent Drought

By Hye-Jin Kim  
Features Editor

Over the summer, a prospective student visiting the Middlebury College Organic Farm asked Jay Leshinsky, "So, does this place run itself?"

Leshinsky, the very tan full-time farm educator who manages the farm year-round, chuckled.

The question sounds absurd but many Middlebury students, myself in-



cluded, have only spent time at the farm for sunset picnics, a couple of early morning runs, and perhaps a mid-afternoon class. For the majority of us, the upkeep of this two-acre plot is often taken for granted as a sort of neglected luxury. Yes, student volunteers work on the farm during the academic year, but what happens when the tomatoes start to ripen and the melons need weeding?

The Organic Farm was planned and envisioned by two passionate students, Bennett Konesi '04.5 and Jean Hamilton '04.5, in 2002. A year later, two alumni donors created a fund to hire two part-time summer interns to work the farm during the summer season. Since then, the summer internships have increased to four full-time positions. This summer, Matt Barr '17.5, Margot Babington '18, Jackie Kearney '16, and Karma Lama '17 were selected for the internship.

For the four summer interns, days begin at 8 a.m. when they spend an hour doing a morning "walk-around" to see how each crop is doing and planning their tasks and priorities for the day.

"Something like weeding or thinning [is good] if someone is looking for a meditative task," said Kearney. "If you want to take your time and just think, you can go in a corner and weed for an hour and a half or so. It's really nice."

A more laborious task is watering the beds by hand. The farm's design of many small beds encourages individuals to focus on a single crop at a time. There is no massive farm machinery here. While this

design is great for educational purposes, irrigation has been a challenge.

The steady wind on the hill makes a large overhead sprinkler irrigation system inefficient. Indeed, the small irrigation system does not cover the entire farm. To irrigate individual beds, Leshinsky and the interns must lug two gallon watering cans back and forth from the fields.

The soil properties and farm location also make it difficult to keep beds moist. The Organic Farm was originally built on the hill due to the excellent draining properties of the sandy loam soil.

"The soil's great when we have a June like we did where it rained almost every day," Leshinsky said. "Since then, however, there's been a dry spell. Besides an inch of rain on July 1, the farm hasn't received much else ... A lot of things are drying up but we can't water the entire place. We have to pick and choose."

Leshinsky said that fall crops are prioritized first, while summer crops, like tomatoes, are pretty much allowed to finish for the season.

"We're also trying to plant cover crops, but there's not enough rain to germinate them," he said. "It's very challenging right now. It would take a prolonged slow rain to really saturate the ground."

For summer intern Lama, an Environmental Studies major, the late summer drought forced her to address topics commonly discussed in classes, like soil erosion and water scarcity, in real-time.

"We actually experienced these issues in day-to-day work," she said. "It wasn't just something you theorized in



Jackie Kearney '16 (L) and Karma Lama '17 (R) harvest this year's crop of potatoes with full-time Farm Educator Jay Leshinsky on the Organic Farm in September 2015.

class anymore."

Despite the subpar weather this summer, Leshinsky is optimistic about the farm's yield and the internship program as a valuable educational opportunity.

"In the most philosophical sense, I would say you always have to adapt your plans," he said. "There are factors beyond your control when you're dealing with the natural world. Of course, you plan as best you can. We have 14 years of records here about what we've grown, where we've grown it in different conditions. But you know nothing will be the same year from year, so you're always having to be a good observer. To watch, to look, to smell."

Around 10 a.m., Leshinsky and his interns break to chat and snack on freshly picked produce, varying from cucumbers to cantaloupes depending on what's in season.

"[Tasting produce] is really, really exciting," Kearney said. "We planted watermelons from seed in June and now we're literally seeing our work come to fruition."

"Seeing that full cycle has been rewarding," Lama echoed. "The summer, that's the peak season. Even if you volunteer out here [during the academic

year], you miss that. Food also tastes ten times better coming straight out of the ground from your own hard work."

From her summer working on the organic farm, Kearney was struck by how much water and energy was invested into producing just a small percentage of food for College Dining Services, even when using organic low-impact farming methods.

"We [at Middlebury] are in a position where we're fortunate enough to be concerned about the quality of our food," she said. "We talk a lot about whether it's possible to feed everyone this way [organic and local]. I think there is a possibility but from looking into how much work goes into it and seeing small farms around here and how hard it is for them, it would take a lot."

With the popularity of movies like *Food Inc.* and Jeremy Seifert's *OMG G.M.O.*, it's often easy to romanticize the potential of small organic farms and their overall success.

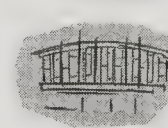
"It's work," said Leshinsky. "Last summer, we spent hours and hours bent over green beans because two beds matured at the same time. But on the other hand, I feel pretty lucky that I can be out here all summer with wonderful students and great conversations."

## The Organic Garden BY THE NUMBERS

The #1 harvested crop is Swiss Chard.



Atwater Dining accounts for 2/3 of product sale.



Otter Creek Bakery has sourced produce from the farm since its inception in 2003.



MAGGIE COCHRANE

## GARDENING START-UP CONT'D

Continued from page 10.

everyone, Cloudfarm is continuing this program and will feature a donation option on its website in the future.

MacKugler advised students of the College looking to replicate his entrepreneurial success to "use whatever means to prove early stage validation." He suggested that entrepreneurs show their product to friends and investors for feedback that could be valuable.

"I definitely would be the biggest advocate for the liberal arts degree in the entrepreneurial world because every day you're transitioning from building sales Excel files to coming up with a logo design," he said.

MacKugler spoke to a Middview trip last weekend at the Cloudfarm offices, giving them similar advice. This summer, he hosted nine summer interns, including five Middlebury students: Caroline Guiot '16, Katherine Chamberlain

'16, Rob Cone '17, Mary Sackbauer '15 and Dylan McGarthwaite '15.

Guiot and Chamberlain agreed that interning at Cloudfarm taught them many lessons about entrepreneurship and founding a start-up.

**"We're basically 3-D printing a garden and shipping it to you."**

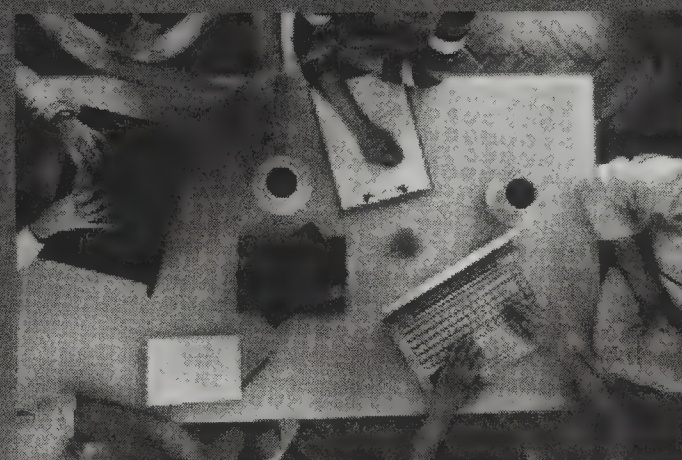
CAM MACKUGLER '09  
FOUNDER OF CLOUDFARM

"I think the biggest take away was that start-ups are a ton of work!" Chamberlain said. "I also learned how rewarding it is to see an idea turn into a legitimate business."

MacKugler says he is going to continue to provide opportunities for students of the College to experience entrepreneurship at Cloudfarm all year round.

"Sometimes you just need to start," said Guiot of what she learned from interning at Cloudfarm. "Your idea or vision might not be perfected but you can be stuck in the design stage forever and you can learn a lot about just by starting."

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# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

## Students Explore Human Health in Lab

By Elizabeth Zhou  
Arts & Sciences Editor

Hard sciences might not be the first association most people make with Middlebury College. But the critical thinking and spirit of discovery that the liberal arts curriculum seeks to promote are well in line with the skills needed to operate in a real-world laboratory setting. This summer, many students put their in-classroom training to the test as they took on research positions both on- and off-campus. Covering a diverse range of topics, three students' summers of science all culminated in positive affirmations about their academic paths — as well as contributed to an ever-growing field of study on human health.

Eliza Jaeger '17 worked as a research assistant for Associate Professor of Biology Mark Spritzer. Her team included Leslie Panella '15.5, Erin Miller '16.5 and Lauren Honican '15, who is working post-grad as a lab technician. Professor Spritzer's research centers on neuroendocrinology, the pathways and effects of hormones in the brain. Over the course of ten weeks, Jaeger studied the effects of primary sex hormones (in this case, testosterone and estradiol) in rodent brains on the dentate gyrus of the hippocampus. One project aimed to determine whether varying levels of testosterone in aged male rats causes them to be better at completing spatial memory tasks. The results of this pilot study showed that higher concentrations of testosterone tend to correlate with better spatial memory.

Why is this research relevant? Because the decreases that humans see in primary sex hormones (testosterone and estradiol) are possibly correlated with age-related cognitive decline. By studying the effects of replacing these hormones in aged rodents, this type of research could lead to valuable insights on the relationship between changes in neuroendocrinology and aging.

From castration surgeries to counting brain cells in sectioned tissue, dealing with rodents in the laboratory had no shortage of challenges.

"Working with animals is one of the greatest privileges I've had at Middlebury, and it does not come without responsibility. Because we were working with live animals, someone always had to come in on weekends to check on the animals, and make sure food was rationed correctly and injections were adminis-

tered on time," Jaeger said. "I would say I have enormous respect and gratitude for the animals that we use in our experiments, and that working with them was a great but challenging experience."

With hopes of earning a graduate degree in evolutionary neuroscience, Jaeger felt that her intense laboratory experience this summer helped to reinforce her resolve in her academic career. She plans to continue her research in the fall and spring semesters with Professor Spritzer, as well as write a research thesis during her senior year.

Meanwhile this summer, just a few rooms over inside Bicentennial Hall, Muriel Lavallee '18 served as a research assistant for Professor Catherine Combelles in the department of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. She worked alongside five other Middlebury students, Thilan Tudor '16, Katherine Kucharzyck '16, Madsy Schneider '16, Julie Erlich '17.5, Jennie Mejaes '16 and a recent alum and a post-doctorate who will take on Professor Combelles' responsibilities while she is on sabbatical in France during the school year. Over the course of eight weeks, the team aimed to uncover the ways in which endocrine-disrupting chemicals found in plastics (such as BPA and BPS) impact fertility and reproduction. Whether we realize it or not, we are surrounded by harmful substances. Many plastics with 'BPA-free' labels actually contain some BPS, and we constantly absorb these chemicals through our skin or ingest them from the plastics we use to hold our food and drinks.

"Being able to focus on this research for eight weeks in the summer was a unique opportunity and I've been exposed to so much," Lavallee said. "Professor Combelles is brilliant and she has put together a lab that is collaborative and exciting to be a part of."

Lavallee worked on folliculogenesis, the process in which ovarian follicles develop and secrete a mature egg. Women are born with a limited reserve of ovarian follicles, and current fertility tests use ultrasound to detect a progressed type of follicle, called the antral follicle, which is used as an indicator of the total number of microscopic primordial follicles in the ovarian reserve. Lavallee investigated granulosa cells, which surround oocytes in antral follicles and secrete hormones essential for oocyte development. The project holds important implication for



KENZIE YEDLIN

Kenzie Yedlin '18 searched for new therapies to treat a rare type of breast cancer.

our understanding of human fertility and the life cycle, and she plans to continue her work into the school year.

As Jaeger and Lavallee experimented with follicles, chemicals and rodents galore on campus, Kenzie Yedlin '18 was hard at work on her own scientific endeavors on the other side of the country. Stationed at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Yedlin participated in a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) in the department of pharmacology and toxicology. The goal of her lab team was to find a more effective treatment for triple negative breast cancer. Also known as TNBC, the disease accounts for 12-24 percent of breast cancer. Because it affects breast cancer cells that lack the three common receptors that other breast cancers drugs target, TNBC is more difficult to treat.

Yedlin and her team hypothesized that pretreatment of triple negative breast cancer cells with natural products would increase the potency of doxorubicin — a prescription drug that treats many types of cancers — allowing for the administration of a lower and less toxic dosage. Their project examined 16 different natural products from Papua New Guinea, a small island that accounts for six percent of Earth's biodiversity.

An aspiring neuroscience major, Yedlin found the transition from college courses to real-world lab work to be somewhat overwhelming at first.

"I knew how to pipette, I knew how to measure things," she explained. "We used some of the same tools, but often in different ways. It's a completely different environment because at school you're doing very specific things following very specific procedures, whereas at the lab you have to create your own procedure. Even though I knew how to pipette, I didn't know why we were pipetting, or how to do it in a certain progression. The

hardest part was feeling comfortable."

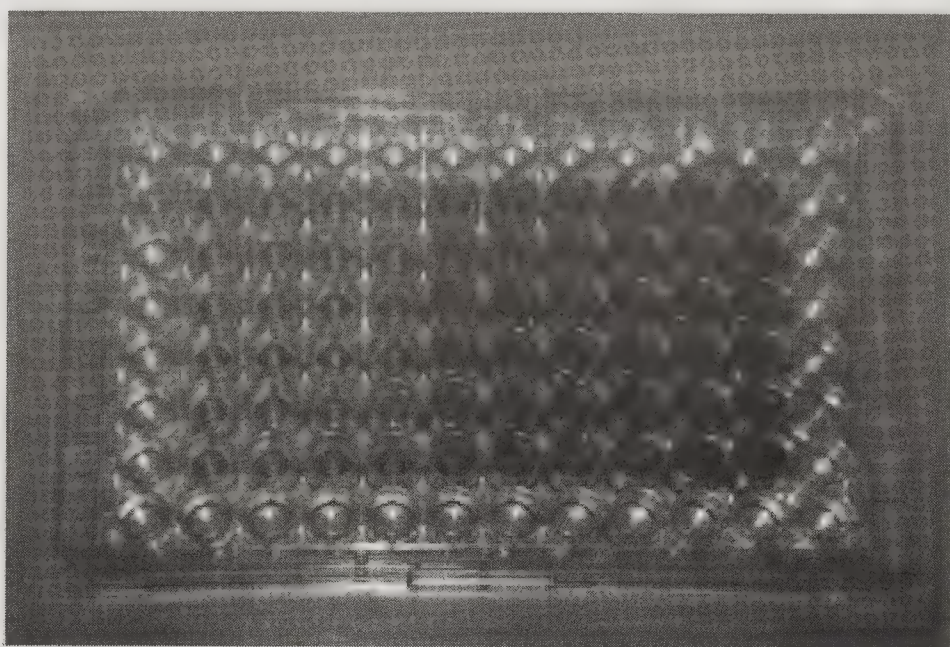
By the end of the eight-week program, however, Yedlin expressed appreciation for the nitty-gritty of the hands-on research process, as she had achieved a deep familiarity with the tools and people around her.

"The stereotypical view of a science lab or science in general is that it's very cutting edge and that it's kind of a tough world. And it is, but it was nice to find a niche where there were really down-to-earth people, where mistakes were allowed," she said, recounting incidents in which she accidentally damaged lab equipment on her first and last days on the job.

Back at the College, Jaeger experienced a similar sense of connection with her peers and her work. Despite any initial frustration, the care and precision she devoted to her lab project ultimately yielded great rewards.

"During one of my first intense cell-counting days, I was becoming discouraged by the monotony of counting small dark cells in rat neural tissue, when I came across what was unmistakably a mature neuron, complete with defined soma and dendrites. I remember that it really hit me then that I was looking at real brain tissue under a microscope," Jaeger recounted of one of her most revelatory moments. "I called one of my lab mates over to look at the neuron, and we both got really excited. I remember this nerdy moment fondly, because it reminds me that there are people out there who 100 percent share my enthusiasm for the brain and all its mysteries, and that I can study it for the rest of my life if I want to."

"We're doing something that matters," Lavallee added. "I'm so thankful for this experience and excited to continue this work during the upcoming school year."



KENZIE YEDLIN

Many students spent their summers serving as research assistants at the College.

**DON'T  
MISS  
THIS**

### J-Term Musical Auditions

Sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside MCA 307. Callbacks Sunday, Sept. 20, 7-10 P.M. May be taken for Winter Term credit. The jazzy Broadway musical *Chicago* is a co-production of the Department of Music and Town Hall Theater.

9/18, 4:30-7:30 P.M.; 9/19, 1-4 P.M. MCA ROOM 221

### First Year Show Auditions

First-year students and sophomore Febs are invited to audition for this Middlebury Theatre tradition. No preparation necessary as audition material will be provided. Also seeking two stage managers (no experience required).

9/18, 2-5 P.M. MCA ROOM 232

### A Conversation with Laurie Patton

Professor of History of Art and Architecture Cynthia Packert will moderate a discussion on the *Mahabharata*, an ancient Indian text, with Laurie L. Patton, President of Middlebury College, and Abhishek Singh, comic book artist and author of *Krishna: A Journey Within*.

9/21, 4:30 P.M. MCA CONCERT HALL



# MIDDSummer Play Lab

By Alexander Burnett and  
Gabrielle Owens  
Contributing Writers

It is 10 a.m. the week before the start of school, but a group of students is already focusing intently. Forming a circle on the stage of Wright Memorial Theatre, the students stand with their eyes shut. Over the sound of a loud fan, they listen to each other, waiting for the right moment. Suddenly, it is there. The stillness is broken as the students all jump together — or not all together, as it turns out.

"Try again," a voice says.

The students close their eyes and restart.

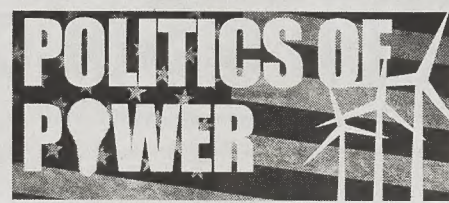
This is part of the MIDDSummer Play

worked to advertise and facilitate a public reading of the play. Taking place this past Saturday, Sept. 12, the reading featured four alumni in the program.

In addition to putting together a new play, the alumni provide master classes to students in the Play Lab. This year, the curriculum included 'Creativity and Collaboration' with Jeppson and Tara Giordano '02, 'The Actor in Space' with Jay Dunn '05, 'Activating the Text' with Becky Martin '04 and 'On-Camera Acting' with Kristen Connolly '02 and Joe Varca '02. Classes are designed to be playful and supportive environments that allow students to explore everything from silent, physical ensemble work to scene-reading for auditions.

delve into the business side of theatre. This fall, discussion topics ranged from the details of how to get headshots and organize a resume, to questions about which cities are best for young theatre artists. Students shared research on these topics, and additionally attended a question-and-answer session with the alumni about their careers. Susan Walker, Associate Director of Professional & Career Development at the Center for Careers & Internships (CCI), who helped fund the Play Lab, was also part of this conversation.

Ubiquitous playwright and alum Jeppson enjoyed hearing his play read aloud and receiving feedback from the students. He plans to continue developing



By Cullen Coleman  
Staff Columnist

In November of 2014, Saudi Arabia and the rest of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) began to wage a price war on American oil producers. Fearing the seemingly inexorable rise of sophisticated and productive North American shale producers, OPEC decided not to temper their own production and instead increased global oil supplies. As supply began to outstrip demand there was a dramatic drop in the price of oil. Once prices hit about \$50 a barrel many commentators predicted the quick collapse of American shale operators.

After a full year and a half, the story is still unfolding. American shale producers got leaner and meaner and stayed competitive at \$50 a barrel. They cut costs, relied on technological ingenuity and focused on developing only the most efficient and economically viable plays. At the same time, key indicators — such as the number of drilling rigs operating in the large shale basins — are pointing towards a looming slowdown in American oil production. What initially looked like a beatdown from OPEC has turned into a staring contest between American producers and their creditors and OPEC governments and their people.

Most OPEC member states' economies are wholly dependent on revenues from oil sales. This means that when the price of oil falls below a certain threshold, governments have trouble balancing their budgets. In looking at Middle East OPEC members, for example, Kuwait, at the low end of the spectrum, needs oil at \$50 dollars a barrel to balance its budget — at the other end, Libya needs oil to be about \$220 a barrel for a balanced budget. Saudi Arabia, the leader within OPEC due to its production capacity, needs oil at just over \$100 a barrel to balance its budget. Yet while this stand-off in oil markets has captured the world's attention, there has also been a quiet and revolutionary development in the distribution of natural gas, which has the potential to rewrite geopolitical trends.

A geological side-effect of the North American shale revolution has been the incredible increase in natural gas production within the United States. The U.S. produces so much natural gas everyday amount that it will soon become a major Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exporter.

## PETROL AND POWER

Unlike global oil markets, the LNG market is much more inflexible and opaque. The current major sellers of LNG have control over the market. Prices are set by producers locking customers into long-term contracts, buyers are prohibited from reselling LNG even if other countries are willing to pay a premium and invariably one if not both parties involved are state-controlled companies, lending a strong political tint to the whole transaction. This is the situation facing the European Union with regards to Russia's geopolitical maneuvering in the Crimean peninsula.

Behind the surge in U.S natural gas production lies an opportunity to rewire the LNG market. Instead of state controlled companies like Russia's Gazprom or Qatar's Qatargas dictating market fundamentals, the price of natural gas flowing from the U.S will be set by the U.S LNG market — a market that is heavily traded, transparent and allows buyers to resell their LNG if they so choose. As a result of US LNG exports, major buyers of natural gas (especially in Asia where most U.S supply will flow) have the chance to force other suppliers to adopt more transparent and flexible pricing strategies. This will only happen if importers band together and force these changes through physical LNG hubs, better markets for trading LNG contracts and increased transportation of natural gas. The U.S can supply the disrupting gas, but it is up to Asian importers to take advantage of the North American shale revolution.



ALEXANDER BURNETT

Students in the MIDDSummer Play Lab attended discussions and classes by visiting alumni the week before fall semester began.

Lab, a week-long program right before the fall semester. Now in its third year, the Play Lab is a unique chance for alumni and students to connect. The main focus of the Play Lab is to workshop a new play written by a Middlebury alum. This year's play was *Ubiquitous*, a Hitchcock-esque thriller by Jake Jeppson '06. Last year, the play was *Clickshare* by Lucas Kavner '06.5, which will be produced by the Theatre Department this fall.

During rehearsals of *Ubiquitous*, students were given the opportunity to discuss the play, offer feedback and ask questions. Professor of Theatre Dana Yeaton helped to lead these discussions, while students

"Play Lab ... gives us a chance to hone skills we don't normally get to work on during the year," said Student Coordinator Caitlin Duffy '15.5.

Students are encouraged to branch out and discover various kinds of theatre and acting. Since all of the instructors are alumni, they are familiar with the types of training and classes that already take place at the College. This allows students to both see where their careers might take them, and to talk with alumni about how to get there.

Another master class and major element of the Play Lab is the opportunity to

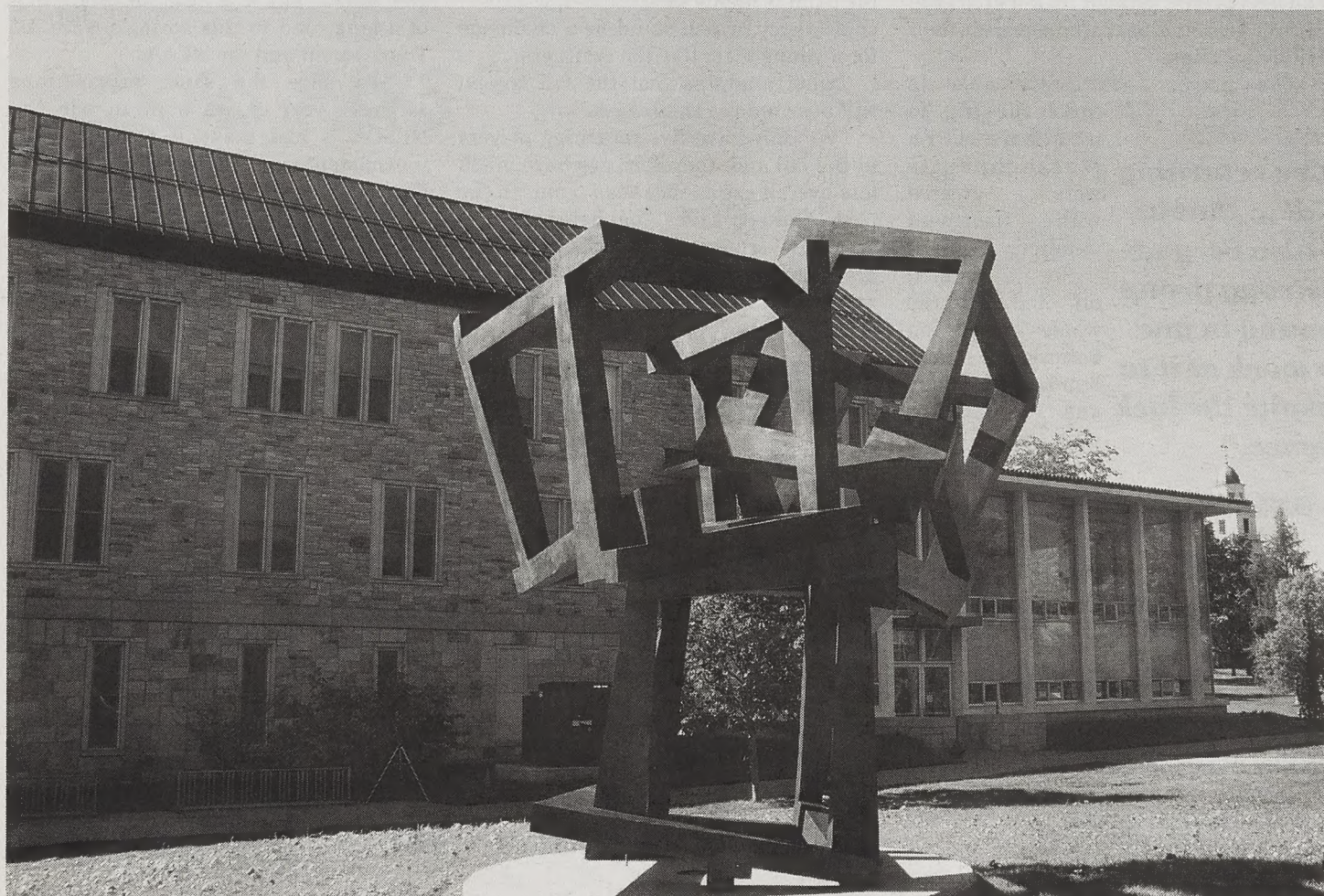
*Ubiquitous*, and would love to return to the Play Lab in the future.

"Once I hear my play in the mouths of actors, I am excited and energized to keep writing," he said.

The students also enjoyed the week of exploration and connection.

Ashley Fink '18 described it as "super fun and exploratory... more like play than work."

Though still in its infancy, MIDDSummer Play Lab serves as a valuable opportunity for collaboration among students and alumni, and will hopefully continue to grow for years to come.



LEAH LAVIGNE

Unveiled Thursday, Sept. 17th, near Axinn Center, Chaos Xaxis is the newest addition to Middlebury's collection of public art.



# Men's Soccer Tops Conn. in Opening Minutes

By Andrew Rigas  
Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's soccer team opened its season with two 1-0 wins over Norwich and Connecticut College, giving the team its first 2-0 start since the 2010 season.

On Wednesday, Sept. 9, the Panthers traveled to Northfield, VT to face off with Norwich in their season opener. Just 3:58 seconds into the game, Tyler Bonini '16 received a pass from Adam Glaser '17 in front, and dealt with it nicely to give the Panthers a 1-0 lead. After playing in just six games last year, Bonini earned his start in the midfield with this second career goal.

Bonini's goal would prove to be enough for Middlebury, as neither team would be able to score for the rest of the match. Glaser almost scored one for himself in the 16th minute, but Norwich goalkeeper Stefan Skoff made an excellent save to keep the slicing shot

out, and Bonini sent the rebound over the bar to end Middlebury's attack.

The Panthers held the ball for most of the first half, gaining a 16-3 shot advantage, but that changed in the second half as Norwich fought to tie the game. With just over 29 minutes to go, Norwich's Colin Lozito missed wide from the top of the 18 in what might have been the team's best chance at equalizing the score. Middlebury secured the 1-0 win, without conceding a shot, earning Greg Sydor '17 his ninth clean sheet in just

18 games played between the posts for Middlebury.

In Middlebury's home opener against Connecticut College last Saturday, Sept. 12, the Panthers — missing their group of seven first-years — struck early once again. In the third minute, Tom Bean '17 pushed a header past Camel goalkeeper, Austin DaCuhna, into the top-right corner for a 1-0 lead. Tim Ogle '17 set up the goal with one of his patented long throws, lofting the ball in from the right to find Bean's head.

"[This] is the one area in soccer where real structure and repetition of practice can sometimes yield success," Head Coach Dave Saward said. "We have good physical size and we have a player in Tim Ogle who has a long throw, which is a very dangerous weapon."

Just seven minutes later, Middlebury almost doubled the lead with another header, this time by Philip Skayne '17, but DaCuhna redirected it just above the crossbar. At the 12 minute mark,

the Camels set up for a free kick from 25 yards after a Panther foul, and Colin Patch curled a shot, which was denied by Sydor. The rebound bounced to Conn. College's Pat Devlin, whose shot was also denied by Sydor to end the Camel's opportunity.

There weren't many scoring chances for either side until Conn. College ramped up the pressure in the final minutes in a last ditch, desperate effort to get a goal. Devlin struck again only

to be sent away by Sydor as he guided Devlin's 15-yard shot from over the bar, clinching Middlebury's second 1-0 win.

Praising the Panthers' defensive efforts, Saward commented that "Rodlauer, Robinson, Weiner and Horton worked very hard all afternoon."

The Panthers will take their 2-0 record into this Saturday, Sept. 19's away match against Amherst, a game that could have major implications at the top of the NESCAC standings.

**"We have good physical size and we have a player in Tim Ogle who has a long throw, which is a very dangerous weapon."**

DAVID SAWARD  
HEAD COACH



COURTESY DAVID SAWARD

The men's soccer team made it all the way to the NESCAC 2014 semifinals, before falling to Bowdoin. They finished with a 9-3-5 record, their most successful in several years.

## BY THE NUMB3RS

0

Number of sets dropped by volleyball at the Smith Invitational.

Number of minutes it took Tom Bean '17 to score against the Camels.

2

15

Number of shots on goal against Conn. College for field hockey.

Highest Individual Finish — Jo Ko '18 — for the men's golf team at the Williams Fall Invitational.

27

12

Number of fouls committed by the women's soccer team against Conn. College.

## Men's Golf Struggles to Build on Previous Season's Success in Williams Fall Invitational

By Will Case  
Senior Writer

The men's golf team began the fall season teeing off in Williamstown, Mass. at the Williams Fall Invitational at Taconic Golf Club last weekend, Sept. 12-13.

The Panthers shot 630 for the weekend and finished twelfth in the 20 team field, 29 shots back of Trinity, which carded a 601 en route to victory. Other NESCAC notables included second place Williams (605), ninth place Hamilton (623), 10th place Amherst (625) and 13th place Tufts (632).

Joe Ko '18 shot a 156 and was the low scorer for the Panthers. He shot a 75 on Sunday, good for the seventh lowest score of the day, as he bounced back from shooting an 81 on Saturday. However, Graham Kenter '17.5, Rodrigo Andrade '17 and defending co-NESCAC champion Bennett Doherty '18 all finished within three strokes of Ko's team low. Kenter shot a 157, Andrade carded a 158 and Doherty carded a 159. Much like Ko, Doherty managed to recover from an 81 on Saturday with a round in the 70s Sunday. Trinity's Will Rosenfield

finished atop the leader board at one over with a 143.

The weekend posed many unique challenges to the Panthers. The team competed without Matt Marra '17 and two-time defending NESCAC champion Fitz Bowen '17, who are both abroad, and also played without its talented crop of first year students who were on their Middview trips.

The players who were able to make the trip to northwestern Massachusetts were greeted with inclement weather.

**"We only have five returning players in the fall ... that being said we are also very excited about the strong group of freshmen coming in and we are ready to work at it to play our best despite the lack of experience."**

BENNETT DOHERTY '18

is the hardest and longest course we play all year and the conditions didn't help. Everyone's excited about playing at home this weekend, and we're also looking forward to returning to Williams in two weeks to play again in the NESCAC qualifier," he added.

Despite carding the lowest round for the Panthers, Ko may have been the most affected by the weather.

"Despite good ball-striking, my

putting was a bit rusty," Ko said. "For two days, I had a total of thirteen 3-putts."

As the qualifier approaches Doherty says he wants to get better off the tee, while Ko aims to improve his putting. However, Doherty, Ko and Kenter all talked about one area in particular that the team is highly motivated to improve: consistency, which could be a challenge for a young team like the Panthers.

Doherty admits that the fall season will pose unique challenges.

"We only have five returning players in the fall and, therefore, we have much less overall experience than teams in the past," Doherty said. "That being said, we are also very excited about the strong group of freshmen coming in and we are ready to work at it to play our best

despite the lack of experience."

The goal for the fall season is "to play our best and work hard to put ourselves in position to win NESCAC's," Doherty said.

This first tournament may have been a frustrating one for the men's golf squad, but it is only the beginning of a long road to this spring's NESCAC Tournament and the NCAAs.

"We have the same expectations as every year — we want to win the NESCAC's and make it to the NCAA tournament, and then make the cut at Nationals," Kenter said.

The Panthers will take to the Ralph Myhre Golf Course this weekend as they host the annual Duke Nelson Invitational, which tees off at 9 a.m.

## PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S SOCCER vs. Conn. College	1-0 W	An early in-conference loss for the 2-2 women's soccer team.
VOLLEYBALL @ Smith Invitational	3-0 W	The team didn't drop a set the entire weekend.
FIELD HOCKEY vs. Conn. College	2-0 W	Middlebury out-shot Conn. 15-1 in this early season victory.
WOMEN'S SOCCER vs. Conn. College	1-1 T	Neither team could secure a goal in double overtime.
MEN'S GOLF Williams Invitational	12th	The men's team failed to break into top 20 for individual finishers.



# Women's Soccer Draws Camels

By Alex Morris  
Sports Editor

The Middlebury women's soccer team opened conference play with a 1-1 home draw against Connecticut College on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Despite an unusually short preseason and annual difficulty of forging a new team with lots of new faces, Head Coach Peter Kim went into the match positive of what his team could achieve.

"Our team's strengths include its work rate, technical ability and tactical flexibility," Kim said. "Our biggest challenge will be simply to come together as a relatively young team. We have lots of talent, and many of our players just need more game experience. In less than two weeks we've already shown excellent depth, leadership and team spirit."

The two sides began the half with equal opportunities to score. The Camels opened scoring in the 13th minute after Annie Higgins sent a low cross into the box. Finding Nicole Medina, the striker needed only one touch to send the ball into the left side of the goal past Emily Eslinger '18.

Refusing to back down, Middlebury kept up the pressure and answered with a goal of their own just four minutes later. Grace Woroch '17 collected a loose ball close to the right sideline and sent it towards goal with Amy Martin '17 on the receiving end. Martin had to think

quickly, shrugging off defenders to strike the ball into the upper-right corner.

The score remained at one goal apiece going into the intermission. With rain picking up, neither team could manage many shots on goals in the second half.

Middlebury's greatest chance to move ahead was in the 58th minute, as Captain Hannah Robinson '16 let rip a firecracker from 20 yards out, challenging Camels keeper Bryanna Montalvo into a fine save.

With six minutes to go in regular time, Conn. College almost secured an advantage. Higgins tried to knock down a skipping cross from the right, narrowly missing crossbar.

The deadlock continued into both overtimes. After the first overtime in which each team had just one shot, play opened up in the second extra session. In the 102nd minute, Montalvo came off her line to deny a sprinting Jamie Soroka '16 from 25 yards out. Soroka continued to challenge, sending a free kick curling toward the left side of the goal that the Camels keeper needed to dive to save. Robinson joined the onslaught with a shot from the left just minutes after forcing a diving save from Montalvo.

Katherine Hobbs '17 feels that her team's performance was a positive start to the season.

"It was hard to swallow the tie since we know we could have come away with the win, but we fought a hard battle against the defending conference

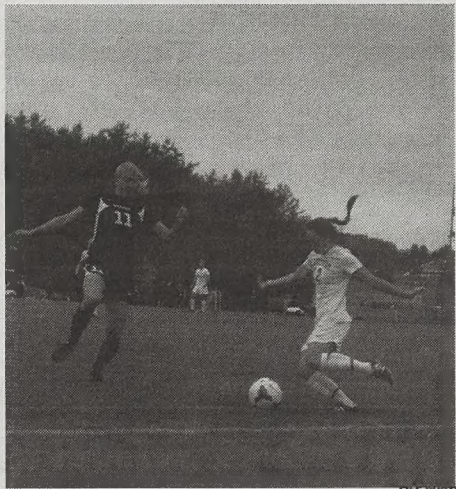
champs and saw lots of positives in our play," she said.

The Panthers held a narrow 17-14 edge in shots, while the Camels had four corners to Middlebury's three. Eslinger made two saves in the opening half, while Kate Reinmuth '17 closed out the game making four saves. Soroka finished with five shots, a game high.

Kim's goals for the rest of the season are simple.

"Our goal for the season is to enjoy every day that we have together. The team is focused on the process of preparing for each match and performing well one game at a time."

Middlebury returns to NESCAC action on Saturday, Sept. 19 at Amherst.



The Panthers narrowly outshot the Camels 17-14.

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	CHANGE	TEAM	Alex's Assertions
1		FIELD HOCKEY	A convincing win signals promising things to come from these ladies this season
2		VOLLEYBALL	Consistency is the key to success this season.
3		MEN'S SOCCER	Good stuff from a team that made a strong championship run last year
4		CROSS COUNTRY	Glorified practice; the real deal is yet to come
5		WOMEN'S SOCCER	Hoping to see these Lady Panthers back on top.
6		GOLF	Loss of senior star power might be too much.
7		FOOTBALL	They don't play for another two weeks, but they can grace G8 nevertheless
8		SCHOOL	Ugh. I haven't done homework in four months.

# Cross Country Opens Season at Dartmouth

By Alex Morris  
Sports Editor

The cross country teams began their season at the Dartmouth Invitational on Saturday, Sept. 12. Squaring off against five teams across all levels of NCAA competition, the women finished third while the men finished fifth.

Due to the length of the season and the race's falling on the sixth day of preseason, the Panther runners limited their efforts in the opening race to a controlled effort.

"We really held back on racing it and instead focused on running a more conservative tempo pace while working on the running together," Head Coach Nicole Wilkerson said. "We wore heavier training shoes and not racing flats and really worked on pacing and strategy. It played out exactly how I had wanted it to and the day was really enjoyable."

After running in tightly bunched pacing groups, Katherine Tercek '16 set the pace for the women ranked third in the nation. She crossed the line in 15th (23:02.97), while Addis Fouche-Channer '17 was close behind

in 19th (23:27.68). Robin Vincent '18, Adrian Walsh '16, and Erzsie Nagy '17 followed in 21st (23:31.49), 23rd (23:36.97), and 26th (23:52.91) respectively to round out the scorers.

Tercek believes that the team's performance at Dartmouth proves how strong the squad will be this year, and is ecstatic to be running in a Panther uniform again after studying abroad last fall and fracturing her hip in the spring.

"It's a fun group of girls who are all motivated and hard working," Tercek said. "This was my first hitting the line before the race, I was so happy to be back running in the panther pack."

Over the 8k distance, the men were slightly less successful than their female counterparts. Sam Klockenkemper led the Panther scorers with a 33rd-place finish (26:17.42) followed by Sebastian Matt '16 in 38th place (26:22.61). The final three scorers finished just seconds apart with Brian Rich '17 in 43rd (26:36.79), Sam Cartwright '16 in 44th (26:45.91), and Tim McGovern '18 (26:51.62) just behind.

Wilkerson is pleased with the progress her

team is making, but concedes that the road ahead will be a difficult one.

"We had a great year last year but think both teams would like to improve upon what we did last year and will do what we can to reach those goals," Wilkerson said. "We have some incredible competition in the

Conference and at the regional level where many of the teams we will race against are top 10 teams in the Nation."

The Panthers look to defend home turf on Saturday, Sept. 19, when they host the Aldrich Invitational. Races begin at 12:30 near the rugby field.



Women are ranked third nationally, while men are tied for 16th in the nation.

## EDITORS' PICKS



ALEX MORRIS (62-58, .516)



EMILY BUSTARD (34-36, .485)



JOE MACDONALD (54-71, .432)



ANDREW RIGAS (0-0, .000)

Can the Men's Golf team secure a Top-3 finish at home in this weekend's Duke Nelson Invitational?

NO  
Back on top y'all. #winning

YES  
"Drive for show, putt for dough."  
-my brother

NO  
Let's start the year off by being controversial.

YES  
Defending NESCAC champions baby!

MLB Matchup of the Week: Jose Fernandez (MIA) vs Max Scherzer (WSH). Who wins?

MIAMI  
Joe knows baseball and stuff.

WASHINGTON  
I like Mahi-mahi, not Marlin.

MIAMI  
Jose is probably the best pitcher ever.

WASHINGTON  
Who cares? The Pirates aren't playing.

Will All-American Ari Smolyar '16 start off 2015-16 with a win at the Middlebury Invitational?

YES  
Is anyone else tired already?

YES  
He's All-American, so probably.

YES  
I know him.

YES  
All I know is he's ranked sixth in the nation.

Will Rigas spend more or less time in the office than Remo did?

YES  
That's really not a hard feat.

YES  
He basically has Remo beat after just one layout...

YES  
Pretty much a given.

WHO KNOWS?  
Alex doesn't even know the difference between the two of us.





## BACK AT IT.

The Panthers' defense has been fantastic in the team's first two matches, allowing nary a goal. Middlebury has begun the season 2-0 with a pair of 1-0 victories. Andres Rodlauer '16 and co. bested NESCAC opponent Conn. College on Saturday, Sept. 12 to get their first conference win of 2015. See page 14 for full coverage.

COURTESY OF DAVE SAWARD

## Field Hockey Emerges Victorious in First NESCAC Game of Season

By Joe MacDonald  
Sports Editor

The sixth-ranked Middlebury field hockey team opened the 2015 season as expected — with a pair of victories — but only by slim margins. The Panthers' intended season opener was postponed, meaning that Middlebury began its season with a home tilt against NESCAC opponent Conn. College on Sunday, Sept. 13.

One goal would be all that Head Coach Katherine DeLorenzo's squad would need, but the women managed to net a pair in its 2-0 victory over the Camels.

Middlebury followed up its season opening victory by jumping out to a 5-0 advantage on the road at Smith College on Monday, Sept. 14. The home squad managed one meager goal late, leading to Middlebury's undefeated start.

In the season opener — despite 13 penalty corners in the first half — compared to just one for Conn.

College — Middlebury was unable to score before the break. The Panthers put four of their eight first half shots on the goal, but all were rejected by the Conn. keeper.

Pam Schulman '17 finally broke the ice for Middlebury, finding the back of the cage at the 43:16 mark off of a penalty stroke. The Panthers defense continued to stifle the Camels, allowing just one shot on net in the second half which goalie Emily Miller '17 easily turned away.

Middlebury managed just two shots on the net in the second half, but they fired with efficiency as both turned into goals, the second coming at the 59:19 mark off of the stick of Shannon Hutteman '16 and assisted by Anna Kenyon '16 and Bridget Instrum '16. The final seconds waned away and Middlebury concluded its opener in victory.

The Panthers' next contest on the following day was far less

dramatic. Schulman ripped two more goals past the netminder within ten minutes of the game's start and the scoring didn't stop there, as all five Middlebury goals would come before the half. Annie Leonard '18 joined the party at 21:53, scoring off of a penalty corner from classmate Audrey Quirk '18. Tired of watching all of the fun, Grace Jennings '19 took it upon herself to dribble down the sideline and beat the keeper for her first career goal. Finally, Instrum, after assisting Schulman on her two scores, netted one of her own just moments before the half.

Middlebury outshot its opponent 12-2 in the first half, all but one of the Panthers' six shots on goal finding paydirt.

Smith College would muster one goal early in the second half, the first allowed by Miller this season, but Middlebury quickly regrouped and shut down any further scoring threats. Miller would face two more shots on goal in the half and rejected both tries.

Through two contests, Middlebury has outscored its opponents 7-1, and the Panthers appear to have a knack for drawing penalties. Middlebury has taken 34 penalty corners compared to just nine for its opponents. Miller has adapted well to her new role as the starting keeper, turning away five of six shots faced.

The Panthers have an important weekend around the corner with a road match at Amherst on Saturday, Sept. 19 and a home tilt against Hamilton on Sunday, Sept. 20.



FILE PHOTO

Middlebury has outscored its opponents 7-1 in their first two games.

## Volleyball Sweeps Opening Weekend

By Emily Bustard  
Sports Editor

The women's volleyball team killed the competition in Northampton, Mass. at the Smith Invitational last weekend (Sept. 11-12), winning their first three matches of the season against Manhattanville, Ursinus, and Smith.

"Our energy was high and we came out in the first set ready to play our best volleyball," Captain Hannah Blackburn '17 said. "It was great to see everyone get on the court and put our preseason work to the test."

On the opening day of the tournament, Manhattanville became the first team to put Middlebury's preseason training to the test. The Panthers topped them in three sets, thwarting the Valiants' last efforts to pull ahead in the last set (25-10, 25-15, 25-21). Outside hitter Becca Raffel '18 and right side hitter Eliana Schaefer '18 led the Panthers in kills, earning 14 and 9 respectively, while Blackburn, the setter, earned four out of Middlebury's seven aces. Meanwhile, outside hitter Emily Kolodka '18's 12 digs and middle hitter Melanie English '17's five total blocks contributed to the team's strong defensive efforts. The Panthers continued their

streak the next day, topping Ursinus 3-0 with no problem in the first game of the day (25-9, 25-11, 25-7). Schaefer showed her skills on defense, picking up two blocks and 7 digs. English also had two blocks, and Kolodka got 13 digs. On the offensive side, Raffel (7), English (6), outside hitter Charlotte Devine '17 (5), combined with others to earn Middlebury a total of 31 kills.

**"Our good out-of-season work really paid off for us, and I feel really positive about our mental game after this weekend."**

HANNAH BLACKBURN '17  
CAPTAIN

A couple of hours later, the Panthers beat their host, Smith, winning 25-16, 25-12 and 25-18. Jen Ayer '18, the libero, emerged in this game as a defensive leader with 17 digs, while English continued to block well (3). Raffel earned 13 more kills, and Devine had three aces.

Especially considering that the team was missing all four first-years at the Smith Invitational, Blackburn is very proud her team's efforts so far.

"Our good out-of-season work really paid off for us, and I feel really positive about our mental game after this weekend," she said.

With these decisive wins under their belts, the women's volleyball team can enter its first in-conference game with confidence. They will play their rival from last season, Bowdoin, this Friday, Sept. 18 at home.

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